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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 154 | MONDAY AUGUST 5, 2013 | www.saipantribune.com | 75¢

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POLL RESULTS

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Yes 12
No 65

Sunday, August 4, 2013

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A 2-year-old boy with only weeks to live is best man for his parents' wedding.
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The airlines' endless quest for a better boarding system.
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LIFE & STYLE

Robin! Miley! Bruno! Who has the song of summer?
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US Senate OKs NMI wage hike delay

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Before adjourning for the August recess, the U.S. Senate passed Thursday night a bill that would once again delay a 50-cent increase in the CNMI's minimum wage on Sept. 30 this year and in 2015. It remains to be seen, however, whether the U.S. House of Representatives would either pass the Senate version or amend its own omnibus territories bill.

» Breakthrough in Commonwealth's 3-mile submerged lands push

The latter also extends the CW and E2-C investor visa program beyond Dec. 31, 2014, among other things.

"The clock is ticking," Gov. Eloy S. Inos told *Saipan Tribune* shortly before the U.S. Senate passed S. 256.

The bill now goes to the U.S. House for approval.

Inos is also concerned about a lack of a decision, to date, by the U.S. Department of Labor on the proposed extension of the CW program, which he said could also be addressed by HR 2200.

If the CW program is not extended, the CNMI will lose easy access to some 12,000 skilled and professional foreign workers that its tourism economy has relied upon for years.

There is less than two months to go before the CNMI's minimum wage in-

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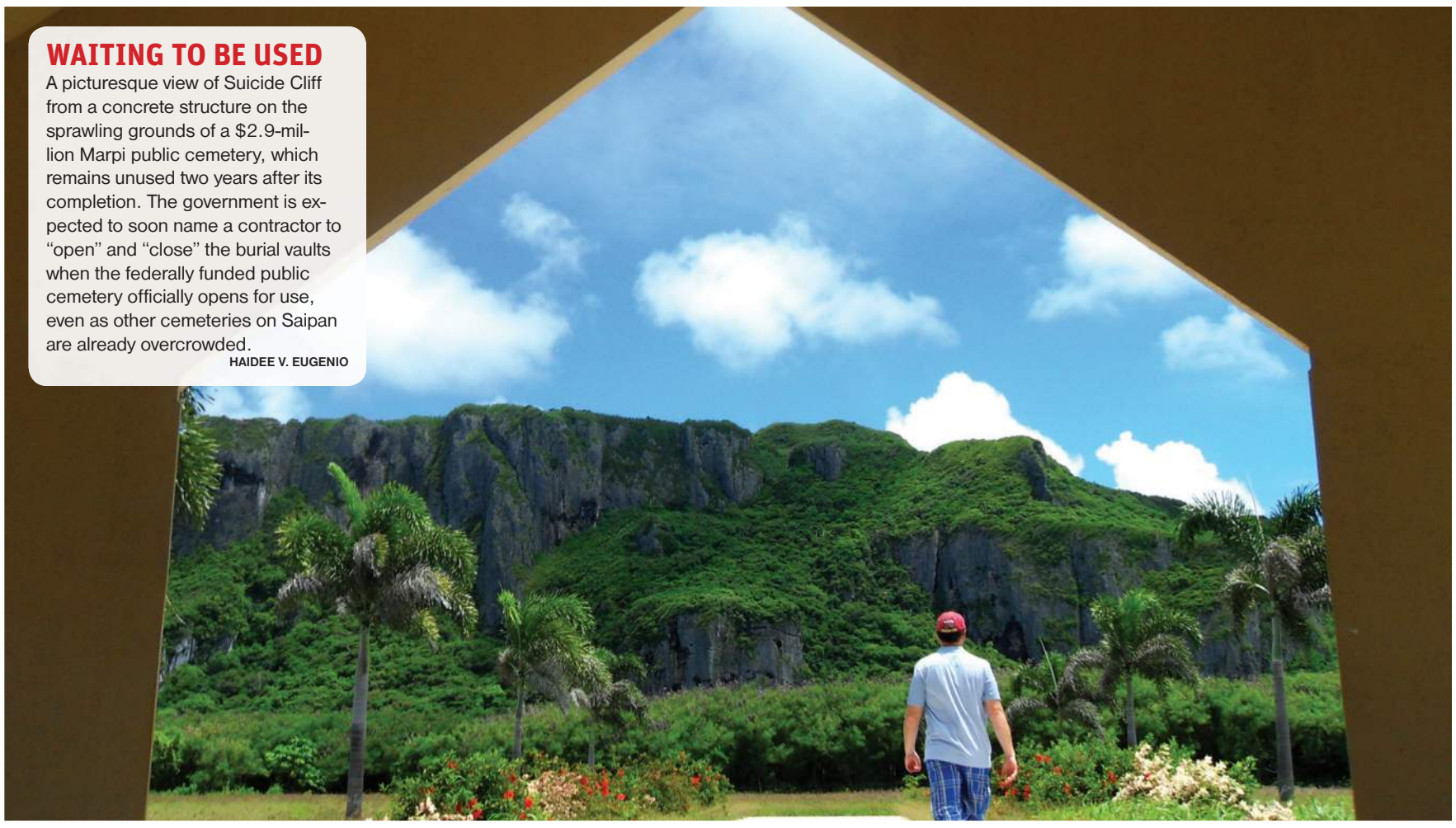

WAITING TO BE USED
A picturesque view of Suicide Cliff from a concrete structure on the sprawling grounds of a $2.9-million Marpi public cemetery, which remains unused two years after its completion. The government is expected to soon name a contractor to "open" and "close" the burial vaults when the federally funded public cemetery officially opens for use, even as other cemeteries on Saipan are already overcrowded.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

USDOE decision on NMC, A. Samoa in 2 weeks

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A 14-member group composed mostly of officials from the Northern Marianas College and American Samoa Community College faced the U.S. Department of Education in a meeting that lasted over an hour-and-a-half, to persuade the federal agency not to go ahead with a planned decision to declare the two institutions' baccalaureate program ineligible for financial aid.

» 14-member group faces USDOE in over an hour meeting

NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., told *Saipan Tribune* that USDOE is expected to come up with a final decision in about two weeks to ensure that whatever determination it will make will be known before the fall 2013 semester begins.

"The meeting lasted almost one-and-a-half hours. The USDOE did not hint to an outcome as they require some time to now go back and review all the facts which we presented. We were assured this would be a priority for the department, as they know we are starting classes in just a few weeks," Hart said.

She said the 14 educational officials included four from NMC led by herself, human resource director and legal counsel Christopher Timmons, Student

See USDOE on Page 4

Moped driver killed in crash

» Two others hurt in vehicular crash

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A man riding a moped died after colliding with a car being driven by a woman along Martinez Road in front of Judy's Restaurant in As Lito Friday afternoon.

Responding medics tried to resuscitate the victim, described as a 59-year-old Japanese national, who was then lying on the side of the road, before transporting him to the Commonwealth Health Center.

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Fed translators helping workers are unpaid themselves. PAGE 3
'DPL is dealing with an impostor E-Land Group' PAGE 5

Local

Hunt for Tinian doc still on; salary hike a 'slim chance'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The hunt for a full-time and permanent physician for the Tinian Health Center remains ongoing following revelation that no final decision has been reached on the potential transfer of one of the two doctors at the Rota Health Center.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board chair Joaquin Torres confirmed this with *Saipan Tribune* on Friday, adding that CHCC interim CEO Esther Muña is still negotiating with a potential candidate.

Rota currently has two physicians: Drs. Francois Claassens and James Toskas. Since early this year, the corporation had bared plans to transfer one of them to the Tinian clinic, possibly Toskas, but no decision has been made on the matter yet.

"[Dr. Toskas] plans to retire from government service and is currently negotiating with the CEO to work at the Tinian Health Center as a retiree. [But] nothing has been finalized," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

He assured that Muña is on top of the issue and would inform the board once a decision is reached. There was no telling as to when this may happen.

"If the doctor chooses to retire, then we can't implement the transfer," added Torres.

In the absence of a permanent doctor on Tinian, a midlevel provider is currently seeing patients at the clinic, with the rotating assistance of physician assistants at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Meantime, Torres said a potential salary adjustment for personnel was not tackled in last week's meeting and the issue is expected to be taken up at the next board meeting.

During an early budget hearing at the Legislature, CHCC officials had recommended the adjustment of salaries for corporation personnel.

During last Wednesday's board meeting, members did not get any recommendation from the CEO about the salary adjustment, Torres said. However, board member Roy Rios asked for a list of employees who already had salary adjustments.

"[This list] will be provided at the board's next meeting," said Torres.

He admitted that salary adjustments for some employees may be difficult to push due to the current financial state of the organization.

"Some of the increases are justified; others will be a struggle explaining. I agree that some of the increases would be difficult to justify in light of the [U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services'] funding requirements and our current financial challenges," Torres added.

COURTESY VISIT OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Gov. Eloy S. Inos with Pohnpei Gov. John Ehsa, left, and Augustine Kohler, right, acting director of FSM Office of National Archives, Culture and Historic Preservation during a courtesy visit on Friday, Aug. 2. Ehsa is leading the Pohnpei delegation on Saipan for the 33rd Micronesian Endowment for Historic Preservation Meeting on Aug. 3-6, and the Annual Consultation Meeting between the Pacific Island Historic Preservation Officers and the U.S. National Park Service on Aug. 6-10.

NMC faculty brings 'policy concerns' to BOR

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The president of the Northern Marianas College Faculty Senate, Kyle Podzieski, has brought to the attention of the Board of Regents the group's concerns about several policy changes being proposed by the college management. He urged the policy-making body to carefully review and assess the potential impact of each recommended measure before any decision is made.

During the public comment period in last week's board meeting, Podzieski told the board that the faculty's input in the proposed measures was ignored and that the group is opposed to their passage. One of these policies is the establishment of a minimum qualification for faculty members. Podzieski said this policy does not give weight to the work experience of faculty members.

He pointed out that without the formal adoption of the board, these policy recommendations cannot be enforced.

"The policy [on minimum qualification of faculty] has been in effect for weeks. It was implemented without having gone through shared governance. Over 30 percent of the faculty have been affected and letters stating their lack of qualifications have been issued. Scheduled have also been changed and vacancy announcements have been made for positions currently occupied," Podzieski told the board in his written testimony that he also read during Wednesday's meeting.

"If the [Accrediting Commission for Community Junior Colleges] insists the policy be implemented immediately, it will to be done with violations of BOR policies and employee contracts. Given it has already been implemented, these violations have already occurred," he added.

The board did not act on the proposed policy but is expected to decide on the matter before NMC submits its report to the accreditation commission on Oct. 15, 2013.

Based on the "draft" proposed policy, NMC will give primary consideration to the highest earned degree in the discipline that the faculty member will teach. Other factors to be considered are competence, effectiveness, and capacity such as related work experience in the field, professional licensure and certifications, honors and awards. Other documented evidence of competencies and achievement that contribute to effective teaching and student learning outcomes will also be factored in.

For general education courses, baccalaureate courses, associate's degree courses designed for transfer into a baccalaureate degree, NMC will require at a minimum a master's degree in the teaching discipline or a master's degree in another discipline with at least 18 graduate semester hours in the field.

For associate degree courses not designed for transfer into a baccalaureate degree, the proposed minimum degree requirements is a bachelor's degree in the field of instruction.

Meantime, for clinical instruction in nursing department, one must possess a bachelor's degree in nursing. The ultimate arbiter of qualification of a faculty member is the department chair.

NMC has approximately 27 instructional faculty members, and about a third is expected to be impacted by the policy, which will be enforced in the fall 2013 semester.

Potentially affected faculty members have already been informed in letters last week about the possibility of transferring them or using them in another area that may be of help to the institution.

Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

Social Commerce Promotion in Korea

The **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA)** and travel agent **Online Tour** recently conducted a social commerce promotion in Korea to increase sales volume of tour packages to **Saipan** and **Tinian**.

The promotion was held on **Groupon Korea** website, selling 3-night and 4-night **Osaka-Saipan** packages. Those travel agents who met the sales goal were provided 30 giveaways by the MVA.

As of the latest available statistics of June 2013, visitor arrivals from Korea to the Northern Mariana Islands are up 4 percent this fiscal year compared to the same period last year. Over 98,000 visitors from Korea have come to the NMI so far this fiscal year.

Paid for with a federal grant from the Office of Insular Affairs.

Saipan Tinian Rota
HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY

2 fed translators helping workers are unpaid themselves

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Two federal translators helping workers with unpaid wages and other labor problems for years have also found themselves unpaid for some four months, and continue to await payments.

The two are with the Federal Labor Ombudsman's Office, which the U.S. Department of the Interior has scheduled for closure by Sept. 30. They are among the four translators at the ombudsman's office.

The two translators have declined interviews with *Saipan Tribune*, but a statement from the Interior explained how the matter came about.

Jessica Kershaw, spokeswoman for the U.S. Department of the Interior, said "per legal requirement, the office translators were applying for a new immigration status with the U.S. but their status was denied on Feb. 28, 2013."

Kershaw said due to that denial, "they were not legally allowed to work, so their contracts were suspended."

They did apply for a different status upon denial, she said.

In early June, the Department of Homeland Security issued the two translators' immigration statuses in separate notices, she said.

"The OIA contract office is currently processing payments for the remainder of work performed earlier this year prior to suspension as well as work performed after resuming their duties under a new immigration status," Kershaw added.

Wendy Doromal, a former CNMI teacher and a Florida-based human rights advocate, said that not paying these federal translators is "alarming, and more than a little ironic" and a "violation of federal law."

"The employees should file a case with the U.S. Department of Labor. In fact, this could be a good test case to see how U.S. DOL handles complaints from the Ombudsman Office," she said.

Meanwhile, U.S. Labor Assistant District Director for Guam and the CNMI Patrick Candoleta is set to meet this week with representatives of worker groups regarding the closure of the ombudsman's office and reported workers' concerns about the U.S. Labor's Wage and Hour Division personnel in the CNMI.

Dekada Movement president Bonifacio Sagana and Mahal president Rene Reyes separately said they will meet with workers on Wednesday to hear their other concerns about the U.S. Labor's services, prior to meeting with Candoleta on Thursday.

The workers groups' officials had urged acting U.S. Interior assistant secretary Eileen Sobeck to help extend the Federal Labor Ombudsman's Office's operations in the CNMI beyond Sept. 30 or, in the alternative, ensure that other entities absorbing the ombudsman's office functions will give "fair treatment" to those seeking help over unpaid wages and related labor issues.

This comes amid worker groups' concern that a U.S. Labor Wage and Hour Division employee on Saipan has been improperly siding with employers who do not pay their workers properly, even before reviewing the workers' specific complaints.

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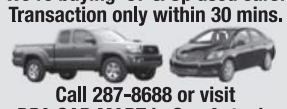
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OPA supports protest appeal in geothermal energy project

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor granted one of two procurement appeals that Australian-based KUTh Energy Ltd. filed related to a request for proposal for geothermal energy on Saipan.

KUTh won a Commonwealth Utilities Corp. bid to develop geothermal energy on Saipan, only for that same request for proposal to be cancelled months later.

A revised RFP was issued later, but by the Capital Improvement Project Office, for geothermal consulting services.

"OPA believes that based on KUTh's reasonable reliance that CUC would be the agency that would issue a revised solicitation for the geothermal project, and the undisputed fact that KUTh had been selected as the responsible contractor for CUC's '-048 RFP award, and thus would have submitted a proposal had it known about the -024 RFP prior to its bid opening deadline, KUTh shall be considered a prospective bidder that was aggrieved at not being considered for the -024 RFP award due to its detrimental reliance on what it was being told by CUC. Such a status comports with CNMI Procurement Regulations," OPA said.

To ensure that all parties are treated fairly and that the geothermal development project is properly managed, OPA granted KUTh's appeal as to -024 RFP, and KUTh's protest was remanded to the Procurement and Supply.

However, OPA denied KUTh's other appeal, which alleged that CUC had dealt with KUTh in bad faith when it cancelled the first RFP for geothermal energy development.

The July 26 OPA decision was ordered by legal counsel to the public auditor James A. Taylor, and concurred by Public Auditor Michael Pai.

CUC issued a notice of intent to award a contract to KUTh on Jan. 27, 2012, resulting from RFP-11-048, which was for geothermal energy development.

Eight months later, former lieutenant governor and now governor, Eloy S. Inos, told CUC in a letter that the specifications for the geothermal project were being restructured.

CUC said Inos canceled three of four alternative energy procurements. Days later or on Sept. 21, CUC cancelled RFP-11-048 and notified winning bidder KUTh about the cancellation.

KUTh timely filed a protest with CUC on Sept. 26 over CUC's cancellation of -048 RFP alleging primarily bad faith on CUC's part.

About a month later, on Oct. 23, 2012, CUC wrote to KUTh about re-issuing the cancelled -48 RFP.

That was the same day the CIP Office issued RFP13-GOV-024, for the provision of geothermal consulting services.

In interviews with Inos back then, he said KUTh was to do geothermal drilling exploration, and on to production.

But Inos said they would like to separate the drilling exploration from production, which they communicated with KUTh.

The U.S. Department of the Interior provided $1.2 million in funding assistance for geothermal exploration and development in the CNMI. CUC then selected KUTh to drill a 600-meter deep geothermal gradient well, which is also known as the Stage 1 geothermal gradient project.

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Johnson's settlement accord submitted for preliminary approval

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The lawyers representing Betty Johnson filed Friday in federal court a motion for preliminary approval of the settlement agreement in her class action against the NMI Retirement Fund and the CNMI government.

The parties also submitted in the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Friday a stipulation and agreement of settlement entered by Johnson as representative of the settlement class and her and class lawyers Margery S. Bronster, Robert M. Hatch, Bruce Jorgensen, and Stephen Woodruff, and Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

Also included as signatories in the agreement are Attorney General Joey P. San Nicolas, Fund trustee *ad litem* representative Joseph C. Razzano, Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, Commonwealth Health Corp. acting chief operating officer Esther Muña, Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Hart, and Fund trustees.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood will hear the motion for preliminary approval tomorrow, Tuesday.

According to Johnson's counsels, the primary purpose of the agreement is to ensure that retirees who are in the class will receive at least 75 percent of their benefits in the future.

The agreement will allow the CNMI to let Fund members who are not yet receiving benefits to withdraw from the Fund and get their contributions back; and provide a mechanism for the retirees who are class members to enforce their rights under the settlement.

Members of the settlement class are defined as those who on Aug. 6, 2013, are members of the Fund's defined benefit plan or persons who are entitled to survivor's benefits of such members; provided the person did not execute and deliver to the Fund a timely election to terminate.

The key provisions of the proposed settlement include the following:

The CNMI will make minimum annual payments to the settlement fund that are sufficient to allow the Fund to pay the settlement class members 75 percent of their retirement benefits.

The CNMI agrees to entry of a consent judgment in the amount of the actuarial present value of accrued benefits of the settlement class, which can be enforced if the CNMI does not make its annual payments (the current value of this judgment is $779 million).

If the CNMI's fiscal condition improves, the settlement provides that the CNMI can pay greater annual payments and the settlement class members' benefits will be increased accordingly.

The Fund will pay the CNMI $10 million on entry of the preliminary approval order so the CNMI can pay a portion of the refunds of contributions of those members of the Fund who are not yet receiving benefits and who have elected to withdraw from the Fund.

The Fund will pay another approximately $42 million to the CNMI when the settlement is finally approved, so the CNMI can pay the balance of the refunds.

Settlement class members will be given notice and an opportunity to choose to opt-out of the settlement.

If the CNMI chooses to pay more than 75 percent of the benefits owed to any retirees who opt-out, the CNMI will have to increase its annual payments to the settlement fund so that class members can be paid just as much.

The CNMI has agreed to pay Johnson's lawyers' attorneys fees and costs. The CNMI has agreed to pay these fees and costs in addition to and separate from the other money it will pay under the settlement. The class members shall not have to pay any attorneys fees or costs and no part of the money the CNMI has agreed to pay the settlement fund for the benefit of the class members will be used to pay Johnson's lawyers' attorneys fees and costs.

The CNMI has agreed to pay Johnson $7,500 as a service award in recognition of her time and effort in bringing and prosecuting this matter as class representative.

Johnson proposed a hearing for Sept. 30, 2013, on a motion for final approval and motion for attorneys fees, costs, and incentive award.

Johnson filed the lawsuit in June 2009. Last June 26, the parties informed Judge Tydingco-Gatewood that a tentative settlement agreement has been reached.

MOPED

From Page 1

A CHC doctor pronounced the victim dead at 3:15pm that same day, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

A witness told police that the car driven by a 58-year-old woman was heading north when, upon reaching the front of Judy's Restaurant, it suddenly turned left in the direction of Marianas Medical Referral Center Tinian-Rota Liaison or Valley Inn on Kostat Drive.

The southbound moped being driven by the Japanese national rammed into the car.

The woman told police that she stopped before turning left, but the moped was so fast that it slammed into her vehicle.

Another witness said the woman failed to yield to the moped.

It was not clear whether the woman, who was not injured, was arrested. Traffic investigators placed the accident under further investigation.

Meanwhile, a driver and his passenger were seriously injured when the car they were on veered off the road and slammed into a coconut tree near Aqua Resort in San Roque Thursday night.

The vehicle—a Mazda 3—sustained extensive damage to the front and right side.

One occupant of the vehicle was last reported in stable condition, but the other person, an 18-year-old male, was reportedly in critical condition.

The vehicle was heading north when it lost control, veered off the road, proceeded to the southbound lane and slammed into a coconut tree on the shoulder of the road.

Police said that alcohol and speed were factors in the crash.

WAGE

From Page 1

creases from the current $5.55 an hour to $6.05 an hour, unless Congress succeeds in amending a federal law.

A 2007 federal law mandated the CNMI to increase its minimum wage by 50 cents every year until it reaches the federal wage floor of $7.25 an hour in 2015.

Since then, the annual 50-cent hike had already been delayed once in 2011.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the 2013 and 2015 minimum wage increases will be skipped "to allow more time for business to adjust, the economy to improve, and the Government Accountability Office to report to Congress on the effects of the wage increases."

The next GAO report is due in April 2014.

While many CNMI employers want a temporary reprieve in the 50-cent minimum wage hike, affected employees are divided on the issue.

"There is no need to delay it again because they already delayed the increase in 2011. The cost of food, power, water, and other goods and services continue to increase. We can't catch up anymore but increasing the minimum wage will help us a lot," a 54-year-old minimum wage earner said Saturday.

With four children to support, he said his $5.55 an hour salary isn't just enough.

Tess Commandante, meanwhile, said she would welcome a 50-cent increase but not if it would cost her her job at a small retail company.

Commandate, a former garment factory sewer, said her employer won't be able to sustain another 50-cent increase this year given that it has yet to recover from a slump. The 54-year-old worker said the company might be forced to shut down because of the added cost in workers' wages.

"So I will choose not having an increase in salary this year than lose my job," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

Both the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands have been pushing for a delay in this year's minimum wage increase.

Florida-based human rights activist and former CNMI teacher Wendy Doromal said that while Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) introduced or supported S. 256, which calls for a delay in raising the CNMI federal minimum wage by 50 cents this year, both members also cosponsored legislation that would raise the federal minimum wage to $10.10.

"The inconsistently is perplexing, especially since Democrats support a fair federal minimum wage and support raising the federal minimum wage. In fact, President Obama called on the U.S. Congress to raise the federal minimum wage in his 2013 State of the Union Address," Doromal said.

She said the minimum wage hike delay "may not pass in the House [or even reach the floor of the House] before the scheduled September 2013 federal minimum wage increase is set to go into effect."

"That would be good news for the CNMI's struggling, underpaid private sector workers who currently earn a deplorable federal minimum wage rate of $5.55 an hour," she added.

'Breakthrough'

Wyden and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) introduced S. 256 at Sablan's request at the beginning of the year.

The bill conveys the CNMI the same 3-mile territorial sea or submerged lands limit as Guam and other U.S. islands.

Under current law, those lands are owned by the United States.

Sablan said the same legislation has passed the U.S. House three times, most recently on May 15 without dissent, "but has always stalled in the Senate."

"So this week's action is a breakthrough," Sablan said.

Wyden and Murkowski reported the bill out of the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which they lead, with an additional provision rescheduling minimum wage increases in the CNMI.

The submerged lands issue arose when the Ninth Circuit Court ruled that the federal government owned all the nearshore waters around each of the Northern Mariana Islands. That was in February 2005.

Inos said he supports conveying 3-mile submerged lands to the CNMI which he said is better than none at all.

USDOE

From Page 1

Services dean Leo Pangelinan, and School of Education director Charlotte Cepeda.

Dr. Kathleen Kolhoff, American Samoa Community College's vice president for academic and student affairs, was also in attendance, along with the president and CEO of the American Association of Community Colleges, Dr. Walter Bumphus, and the president of Western Interstate Commission of Higher Education, Dr. David Longanecker.

They were joined by Neil Horikoshi, president and executive director, Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund; and Krystal Ka'ai, acting executive director, Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.

The offices of Delegates Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and Eli Faleomavaega (D-AS) also came out in full force. Their representatives included Bob Schwalback, Sablan's chief of staff; Herb Yamada, Sablan's legislative assistant; Rich Williams, education policy adviser, Committee on Education & the Workforce; Tavita Rich, Faleomavaega's legislative director; and Leilani Pimentel, Faleomavaega's legislative assistant.

" We had a very strong and firm presence with the department. The letter from Gov. [Eloy] Inos to the [Education] Undersecretary was provided. Additionally and very importantly, we were accompanied to this meeting by some very influential and strong national educational leaders and our U.S. congressional offices. The presence of all of these individuals and their strong verbal support for a positive resolution by the department to both Northern Marianas College and American Samoa Community College was tremendous. And, very importantly, is to have this resolution happen as quickly as possible. The college is prepared to move this up the ladder to the Secretary of the USDOE, as that would be our next step," Hart told *Saipan Tribune.*

Hart believes the college did an excellent job of presenting the facts and in answering all questions posed by Undersecretary Martha Kanter and her staff at the meeting. She appreciated the efforts shown by peers like WICHE president Longanecker, who flew from Colorado to Washington, D.C., to join them at this meeting.

"As David served as a prior Assistant Secretary of Education, his knowledge and insight into addressing and working with the department was extremely valuable. Also, Dr. Bumphus, president/CEO of the American Association of Community Colleges and his Executive VP for Government Relations, Dr. David Baynes, plus Mr. Neil Horikoshi all provided valuable input and recommendations to Dr. Kanter," she said.

Both congressional offices also assured that they will continue to appeal to USDOE on behalf of the group.

"It is important that our students within the baccalaureate program know that we will continue to do all we can at Northern Marianas College to help them to receive the financial aid packages they need in order to attend college with us," said Hart.

NMC was earlier tipped off by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges about a potential "policy decision" by the USDOE to stop the college's baccalaureate program from receiving federal assistance after a finding that NMC's dual accreditation is not in accordance with policy. NMC is accredited by both the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities.

If this happens, NMC's only four-year degree program, the School of Education, will be barred from getting any Title IV funds.

When asked if it is the usual practice of USDOE to first inform the WASC, instead of NMC, about any possible decisions for the institution, Hart said this practice is appropriate for the USDOE.

"In this situation it was most appropriate for the USDOE to first work directly with WASC. The issue that the USDE has with Northern Marianas College and two other institutions, including American Samoa Community College, hinges on our joint accreditation status. The discussion had to first start with our two accreditors," Hart said.

Myers: DPL is dealing with an 'impostor' E-Land Group

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The E-Land Group that is a majority owner of Coral Ocean Point is not the same worldwide conglomerate, according to attorney Robert Myers Jr., counsel for Pacific Investment Development Corp. and Vicente O. Litulumar, who are suing the Departments of Public Lands and Finance over an alleged sole-source contract to lease the public land where COP sits.

» Prestley says no reason at this time to believe that

As this developed, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo on Friday placed under advisement PIDC's request for an injunction against DPL and Finance.

In an interview after the hearing, Myers said this E-Land Group is not really the real E-Land Group of Companies in South Korea that has been reported.

When asked how he knows about this, Myers said "some gentlemen" on Saipan know the real owners of E-Land.

"The extension agreement calls for a $42 million investment in E-Land. No company is going to come here and invest that amount of money for 14 years of investment," Myers said.

In a separate interview after the hearing, assistant attorney general Peter Prestley, counsel for DPL and Finance, said it was his first time to hear the allegation about E-Land.

Prestley said that Myers seems to suggest that the E-Land that DPL is now dealing with and with Suwaso Corp. is an impostor organization "or something like that."

"If it is true, of course we want to know about it. So we will look into that, but we don't have any reason to believe that they're not," Prestley said.

In May 2012, United Micronesia Development Association Inc. formally announced the sale of its Micronesia Resort Inc., which owns the Palms Resort Saipan in San Roque, to E Land Park.

E Land Park is reportedly one of the many companies in the E Land Group of Companies, a worldwide conglomerate that has holdings of some $7 billion.

In September 2012, then-governor Benigno R. Fitial announced that E-Land Group became a majority owner of COP.

In February 2013, it was reported that South Korean real estate mogul E Land Group has completed its purchase of Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio.

PIDC and Litulumar sought a TRO and an injunction against DPL and Finance, asserting they will be irreparably harmed by the agencies' alleged pursuit of the sole-source contract leasing with Suwaso Corp., Micronesia Resorts Inc., and E-Land Park Limited.

The TRO prevents DPL and Finance from pursuing the contract to lease the public land where COP is located.

Last July 18, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja issued the TRO and set the hearing on Friday before Govendo whether to continue the injunction or not.

After hearing the parties' arguments, Govendo disclosed that he is inclined to deny PIDC's request for an injunction. He said he will issue his decision this week or a week later.

The judge said his ruling, however, may find PIDC's claim against DPL in the fiduciary duty issue to stand. He said the TRO will stand until he issues the written decision.

In fairness to Prestley, Govendo said, the Attorney General has not been consulted on a lot of things that happened involving public land leases. Govendo said public lands have been ignored for such a long time, so he understands the position of Myers.

Myers

At the hearing, Prestley said PIDC and Litulumar don't have any legal interest in the COP property and won't lose anything.

"Nothing is irreparable harm here," Prestley said.

He said this is basically a request to stop the golf course until this case is over and that may take up to 10 years.

Myers argued that in Rep. Janet Maratita's case against Fitial and co-defendants, Associate Judge David Wiseman ruled that same issue when the government alleged the same thing—that the government will not accrue expenses.

"It's been decades and decades of abuse of public lands," Myers said.

Myers allege a breach of fiduciary duty because DPL and the Finance Department are not opening the lease to all potential investors. Myers said DPL and Finance are taking away PIDC's and other investors' opportunity to compete.

Myers said the statute requires the government to open up the lease and not have secret negotiations with Suwaso Corp. "Open up to be fair. That's for public's benefit," he said.

He said DPL rejected his clients' two offers when Suwaso failed to perform its obligations under the land lease.

Prestley said this is different case because in Maratita, the government will spend millions of dollars. In this case, a private developer will incur expenses, not the government, he added.

Prestley said Myers should go through Procurement and Supply and the Office of the Public Auditor, then to Superior Court.

In an interview, Myers said Suwaso failed to meet the terms and conditions of the extension agreement that the Legislature approved.

"When they couldn't, that's when PIDC proposed to DPL. Although the statute requires them to do it, it is very clear that they're supposed to accept alternative proposals. …They didn't. They just refused it. They continued to enable Suwaso Corp. to have more time to produce evidence of financing and so on and so on. Two years had passed. This is another scheme. They didn't have the money," Myers said.

The lawyer said his client, PIDC, is asking the court to force DPL to open up the lease and let anybody bid on it.

"My client may lose but they at least are given the opportunity to compete," he said.

Humanities Council wants photos circa 1985 and older

Do you have old photographs about the CNMI and its people before 1985? Then the NMI Council for the Humanities needs your help as it is in the process of compiling a database of digital photographic images that documents the history and cultures of the islands.

This project is sponsored, in part, by a "We the People" grant awarded to the council by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The database, which currently contains approximately 4,000 images, will be available for public use to support academic, family, and genealogy research.

The council said images are being scanned at high resolution for maximum quality. Contextual information relating to individual images, including original captions, is also being collected, whenever possible.

The council seeks your help in acquiring images to add to the database. Photographs should depict people, places, and events in the Northern Mariana Islands before 1985.

Whenever appropriate, the council will make the necessary arrangements to carefully scan original photographs or slides to produce digital files that will be added to the database. Donors will also be provided with digital files of their photographs, when requested.

For more information, contact the council staff at 235-4785 or email photo@nmihumanities.org to make arrangements necessary to donate your images. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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Pacific region's probation, parole officers here for 3-day training

Probation and parole officers from the Pacific region are on Saipan for the 2013 Pacific Judicial Council's three-day probation and pretrial officer training that will kick off tomorrow, Tuesday.

The training, which will be held at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, will start at 8am in Hibiscus Hall.

Among the presenters are Christopher Hansen, chief probation officer of Solano County, California; James Schloetter, assistant deputy chief probation officer of the Northern District of California; and Michelle Spidell, pretrial and probation administrator of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

On Wednesday, judges will discuss, pre-sentencing reports. The panelists will be District Court of Guam Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, Pohnpei Supreme Court Chief Justice Benjamin Rodriguez, CNMI Superior Court Judge Joseph N. Camacho, and Guam Superior Court Judge Anita A. Sukola.

Josephine Cepeda, chamber administrator for Guam Chief Justice F. Philip Carbullido, told *Saipan Tribune* on Friday that 37 participants are from the American Samoa, Chuuk, Guam, Saipan, Palau, Yap, Pohnpei, and Kosrae.

Carbullido is president of the Pacific Judicial Council.

At the training, parole and probation officers will be sharing thoughts about what's changing in their court jurisdictions.

"They share what's new, what's not…anything that they can help each other and reach out into a network," Cepeda said.

The Pacific Judicial Council is composed of chief justices and presiding judges from 13 court jurisdictions. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

USP4GG petition garners 1K signatures

The US Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas Chapter's petition to have undocumented aliens in the CNMI included in the comprehensive immigration bill currently pending in the U.S. House of Representatives already has more than 1,000 signatures, according to its chairperson Dr. Celia Lamkin.

She said those who signed the petition included not just Filipinos but also Chinese nationals, Filipino-Americans, and American citizens that include Chamorros. Lamkin is inviting other ethnic groups regardless of their citizenship and immigration status to sign the petition.

Aside from the inclusion of the islands' undocumented aliens in the bill, USP4GG also wants the removal of the 10-year residency and five years of CW waiting period as an eligibility for green card application.

Instead, it wants the provision to be replaced with eligibility for green card application for those who have been legally working in the CNMI on or before May 8, 2008.

USP4GG held another of its immigration forums last Saturday and Sunday at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe. In all, about 250 attended the forums last weekend, including alien workers who have worked 40 and 32 years on the islands and those used to have CNMI resident status.

Attendees of the event were able to consult with Lamkin and other USP4GG officials on how the CNMI provision in the comprehensive immigration bill— Section 2109 of S744 or the Border Security, Economic Prosperity and Immigration Modernization Act—will affect their lives in the CNMI.

Lamkin and others like USP4GG president Rodel Rodis and legal counsel and spokesperson Ted Laguatan has said that excluding undocumented aliens in the CNMI from the comprehensive immigration bill that would give a pathway to citizenship to 11 million undocumented aliens in the U.S. mainland is unfair and is tantamount to discrimination.

In related news, the Foreign Workers of the CNMI will have a meeting this Wednesday, Aug. 7, 6pm at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe.

The purpose of this meeting is to allow the organization to obtain more information about labor and immigration issues. Those with pending labor and immigration cases are invited to attend. Those with problems with their CW and parole applications are also invited.

On Thursday, Aug. 8, the group's leaders are scheduled to meet with the U.S. Assistant Secretary of Labor about the issues of foreign workers in the CNMI. ***(Mark Rabago)***

PDI SUPPORTS THE HUMANITIES CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pacific Development Inc. president Takahiro Tomie presents a $1,500 check to Northern Marianas Humanities Council board chair David J. Attao. Also pictured are PDI director and Humanities Council board member Gordon I. Marciano, Humanities Council development committee chair Jerry Facey, and PDI accounting staff Vivian Jose and Mila Nunez. The Council will use this donation to support its upcoming programs and educational initiatives.

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-COTA/FTA-145
Submission Date: August 14, 2013 Time: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF MODULAR OFFICE FURNITURE AND PARTITIONS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY "

The Scope of Work for this project will be available on or after July 22, 2013 at COTA Office of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, 1st Floor, Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

This is a federally funded project; proposers are required to comply with FTA Federal Contract Clauses as applicable.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Special Assistant for Public Transporation

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL OIL
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-007-13

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
AMENDED

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the supply and delivery of Automotive Diesel Oil for its use at the Saipan International Airport/Seaport.

The information, scope of work and other considerations of the proposal is available beginning June 24, 2013 from 0800 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interest proposers must submit one original and two copies of the sealed proposal. The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., August 16, 2013, to the Office of the Executive Director on the aforementioned location.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ Maryann Q. Lizama
Acting Executive Director

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-COTA/FTA-148 (A-C)
Submission Date: August 14, 2013 Time: 11:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) DESKTOP COMPUTER SYSTEM, THREE (3) LAPTOPS AND SIX (6) WIDESCREEN MONITORS, A PROJECT UNDER THE OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY "

The Scope of Work for this project will be available on or after July 22, 2013 at COTA Office of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, 1st Floor, Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

This is a federally funded project; proposers are required to comply with FTA Federal Contract Clauses as applicable.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Special Assistant for Public Transporation

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP13-COTA/FTA-144
Submission Date: August 19, 2013 Time: 10:00 A.M.

"SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN FOR THE CNMI, A PROJECT UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)"

The Scope of Work for this project will be available on or after July 22, 2013 at COTA Office of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, 1st Floor, Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

This is a federally funded project; proposers are required to comply with FTA Federal Contract Clauses as applicable.

Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Roy Rios, Community Planner by fax to (670) 664-2313 or email to roy.rios@gov.mp no later than the close of business, August 08, 2013. Questions and responses shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Special Assistant for Public Transporation

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP13-COTA/FTA-143
Submission Date: August 19, 2013 Time: 10:00 A.M.

"TRASPORTATION MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE AND VEHICLE TRACKING SYSTEM, A PROJECT UNDER THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OF TRANSIT AUTHORITY (COTA)"

The scope of work for this project will be available on or after July 22, 2013 at COTA Office of the Special Assistant for Public Transportation, 1st Floor, Hon. Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, Isa Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

This is a federally funded project; proposers are required to comply with FTA Federal Contract Clauses as applicable.

Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Vince Merfalen, Mobility Management and Transit Coordinator by fax to (670) 664-2313 or email to vince.merfalen@gov.mp no later than the close of business, August 08, 2013. Questions and responses shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ Thomas J. Camacho
Special Assistant for Public Transporation

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB13-DPW/SWMD-156

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: AUGUST 28, 2013
TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF FOUR (4) DESKTOP COMPUTERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESEVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Delay in distributing 40 laptops for lawmakers, LB staffers scored

Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) scored the delay in distributing 40 laptops meant for 29 lawmakers and Legislative Bureau staffers since last year, saying these laptops might be "obsolete" even before they could reach their recipients.

Melchor Mendiola, Legislative Bureau director, told *Saipan Tribune* the laptops will be distributed soon, pending the installation of some software.

The LB is also considering changing its distribution policy, to allow lawmakers to bring the laptops home with them, Mendiola added.

"I don't understand why they're still in storage area… It's not good for them to continue to sit in the storage area," Reyes said during session.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) echoed Reyes' concerns.

Reyes said he would like to acquaint himself with the laptops, which the LB purchased last year.

"I believe those laptops will be obsolete again… What's holding that back?" the senator asked.

The LB bought the 40 Lenovo laptops for the use of lawmakers, legislative clerks, and counsels during legislative sessions and official meetings, to save on volumes of papers. Funding for the purchase of these laptops was taken from the LB's previous fiscal year budget.

Instead of the LB providing copies of documents to lawmakers, electronic copies will be made available to them through their laptops.

Some House and Senate members, however, have long been bringing their own laptops and tablets to sessions on Capital Hill. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

Four teachers join MCS in new school year

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four new teachers are joining the Mount Carmel School teaching workforce for school year 2013-2014, which starts in September.

The new addition to the school's teaching workforce are Ian Mulligan, Ida Nicole Bahillo, Mi Ji Han, and Monica Manalo.

Mulligan

Bahillo

Han

Mulligan is originally from Portland, Oregon, and recently graduated from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, with a bachelor's degree in History. Recruited through the University of Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education network, Mulligan comes to the school with years of experience as a camp counselor and resident hall director, not to mention distinction as an Eagle Scout and a member of the Phi Alpha Theta national history honor society.

When asked about teaching at Mount Carmel School, Mulligan replied, "I am excited for the opportunity to come to Saipan and Mt. Carmel for my first year of teaching. I feel so welcomed and blessed by those in the Mt. Carmel family." Mulligan will teach junior high and high school social studies.

Ida Nicole Bahillo, although from Florida, is no stranger to Saipan, having married Joe Bahillo, the son of another Mount Carmel School teacher, Candida Bahillo. Armed with a bachelor's degree in History from the University of West Florida, Bahillo has taught at several schools in Florida. "I am enthusiastic at the opportunity to join the Mount Carmel family and become acquainted with all students, parents, and staff," Bahillo said.

Bahillo will teach high school English.

Min Ji Han is no stranger to Mount Carmel School, where she graduated in 2007 with honors. After graduating, Han studied at City College of San Francisco and returned home to earn her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the Northern Marianas College. Han earned her Teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages certificate in 2010, which helped her offer English as a Second Language tutoring for the past couple of years to students in all grade levels. About returning to her alma mater, Han said: "Being a product of Mount Carmel has given me wonderful experiences that led me to become a teacher. I am so blessed and honored to return to my alma mater and to be able to teach my students the importance of education that will help them as they get older."

Han will teach fifth grade.

Monica Manalo is another teacher returning to her alma mater. A 1982 AlumKnight, Manalo is a veteran teacher who taught for many years in the CNMI Public School System. After earning a bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Guam, she proceeded to earn a master's degree in Educational Leadership from San Diego State University. Reflecting her faith in Catholic education and in her alma mater, Manalo sent all of her children through Mount Carmel School. She is excited to be joining the Knight family as an AlumKnight. Manalo will teach the second grade.

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor, Captain George F. Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (June 14, 2013)

II. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEM(S)
1. Approval of Personnel Committee Report
2. Personnel Matter

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman, Board of Directors

August 2, 2013

CALL YOUR SENATOR

"NO".....MEANS...."NO"

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*Tell the Senators that **CasiNOs are NOT WANTED on Saipan!***

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CasiNO!

***NO** to Drugs*
***NO** to Crime*
***NO** to Poverty*
NO to CasiNO

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-022

SALARY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Office of the Executive Director is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified consultant or consulting firm to review and revise the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's current Salary Administration Program (SAP), including the development of a performance management rating and payment system.

The RFP package and the scope-of-work may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $ 100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **August 8, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-13-022, Salary Administration Program", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 27, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All Offeror are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

Offerors will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing no later than **August 12, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Frankie Cepeda, CUC Human Resource Manager via email frankie.cepeda@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all offers and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-024

TANK # 103, 120 & ISO TANKS CLEANING AT CUC POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the Tank Nos. 103, 120 & ISO Tank Cleaning at CUC Power Plant, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The "CUC" or "Corporation" currently operates multiple diesel engine generators at its Power Plant Nos. 1 and No. 2, Lower Base, Saipan, CNMI. The CUC is soliciting proposals from experienced contractors or specialist firms experienced in the cleaning of fuel storage tanks up to 1 M USG capacity.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Work plan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 Integrity Inspection Program. The Power Plants 1 and 2 are located at the Lower Base Industrial Area near Saipan seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). It is the corporations' desire to undertake cleaning of the Bulk tank # 103, as soon the new tank #102 under construction is commissioned:

The work shall be done in two phases:
- **Phase 1 - Tank #103 (840,000 gal.)**
- **Phase 2 – Miscellaneous tanks – Tank # 120 (20,000 gal.) & ISO tanks, 2 ea. – 6,350 gal.**

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit, will be held on **August 12, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Power Plant No. 1 Conference Room in Lower Base, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"TANK # 103, 120 & ISO TANKS CLEANING AT CUC POWER PLANT 1, SAIPAN",** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 29, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Contract will be awarded to the most responsive proposers, as adjudged CUC and US EPA. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **August 13, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Power Generation Acting TMO via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Air Force training on FDM
The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on Aug. 6-9, from 11:30am to 3pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated above.

The waters surrounding Farallon de Medinilla are open for fishing from 4am Aug. 3 to 5am Aug. 6 and from 4am Aug. 10 to noon Aug. 12. As a reminder, Farallon de Medinilla is off-limits due to safety and security concerns. ***(PR)***

UOG Regent Nominating Council meeting
The regular meeting of the University of Guam Regent Nominating Council will be held Friday, Aug. 9, 2013, at 12pm in Room 260, second floor of the Jesus S. & Eugenia A. Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building. For assistance contact Elaine Faculo-Gogue, UOG EEO Office, Room 106, Iya Hami, at 735-2244 or (TTY) 735-2243. ***(PR)***

Free energy audit workshop
The University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability offers a free Energy Audit Workshop on Friday, Aug. 9 from 9:30am to 12:30pm at House No. 33 Dean's Circle on the UOG campus. The workshop goals are to: raise awareness on energy efficiency and energy conservation; raise public awareness of the importance of an energy audit and its benefits to home owners; and provide additional resources to homeowners. To register or for more information email tonyoendaya@uguam.uog.edu or call 734-0478. ***(PR)***

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth
of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, August 6, 2013, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference room.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary
- a. Call to Order
- b. Roll Call
- c. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments[i]

III. New Business
- a. Motion to Stay in re: Commission Action No. 13-001-05212013

IV. Executive Session[ii]

V. Adjournment

[1]Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2]Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

August 5, 2005

'A-bombing saved more lives'
In view of the 60th commemoration of the atomic mission to Japan this week, surviving crew members of B-29 Superfortress *Enola Gay*, led by retired Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets, have issued a joint statement, reiterating that they have no regrets over the 1945 atomic bombing. At the same time, the group called on the nation's leaders to uphold "reason" and avoid the use of nuclear weapons. "To our fellow veterans and the American nation, we will all echo one sentiment, [we] pray that reason will prevail among leaders before we ever again need to call upon our nuclear might," said the group.

Govt offices to pay own electricity bills starting Oct. 1
To promote energy conservation and ensure greater control of their power use, individual government agencies will be asked to pay for their own electricity bills beginning fiscal year 2006 or on Oct. 1 this year, Finance Secretary Fermin M. Atalig said yesterday. He said such practice would prompt agencies to save more on their utility use. Currently, Finance gets billed for the utility consumption of the entire government. The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation bills the government $10 million to $12 million per year. Under the continuing resolution, the government is appropriated $5 million a year for utilities.

August 5, 2006

'Japan market will rebound'
Tourism leaders, led by visiting Japan Travel Bureau president Takashi Sasaki, project that the Japanese tourist arrivals in the CNMI will soon recover. "Japan Airlines' pullout last year brought a tremendous negative impact to the tourism industry, to the general economy in the CNMI. However, we know that the influence will not last long. The rebound of the tourism industry is forthcoming," said Sasaki in his remarks during yesterday's grand opening of the new office building of JTB's affiliate organizations on island, PMT and Tasi Tours. He said that Japanese tourists remain excited about coming to the Northern Marianas because of the "beautiful ocean and the nature of the islands."

Tourism task force formed
Gov. Benigno R. Fitial yesterday created a tourism task force to focus on promoting the Northern Marianas in the Japan tourism market. The task force is made up of CNMI government officials, local business leaders, and representatives of Japan-based airline and travel companies. The appointees from the CNMI are Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio; Commonwealth Ports Authority board member Rex I. Palacios; Finance Secretary Eloy Inos; Commerce Secretary James Santos; Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands chairwoman Lynn Knight; Tan Holdings Corp. president Jerry Tan; DFS Galleria managing director Stephen Timms; and DFS president Marian Aldan Pierce.

August 5, 2007

Hotels half-filled in June
Hotel occupancy in the Northern Marianas in June improved a bit from two months ago but was still low compared to the same month last year. Data from the Hotel Association of Northern Mariana Islands showed an occupancy rate of 55.42 in June this year. This is about 11 percent lower than in June 2006 of 66.38 percent, but higher than in May this year, which was at 52.32 percent, and April 2007, which had an unprecedented low of 49.45 percent. In the first six months of 2007, average hotel occupancy rate was at 61 percent, a decline of about 4 percent from the same period in 2006. In terms of room rate, June's median figure went up to $82.88 from $80.23 during the same month in 2006. June's room price was also the highest recorded for the month of June since 2000.

XTERRA set to continue in 2008
After announcing in June that it is pulling out of XTERRA, the Marianas Visitors Authority changed its mind and confirmed Wednesday that the premier triathlon will be held on Saipan in 2008-at a minimal cost to the MVA. "We are having XTERRA at a much cheaper price," said board member JM Deleon Guerrero during Wednesday's meeting. Instead of spending over $300,000 to host the event, the authority would spend only about $100,000, he said. The event will be hosted by Taga Inc. and Team Unlimited.

16 complete their NCLEX-RN review course at NMC

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE

Sixteen individuals recently completed a rigorous NCLEX-RN review course at the Northern Marianas College facilitated by the CNMI Area Health Education Center through the NMC Community Development Institute.

Sixteen individuals, most of whom graduated from the Northern Marianas College with a nursing degree, recently completed a preparatory course for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses, or NCLEX-RN.

The NCLEX-RN is used by nursing boards in all 50 United States and all U.S. territories to award nurse licenses. The rigorous examination tests students on their nursing knowledge, skills, and abilities essential to the safe and effective practice of nursing at the entry level.

The review course was facilitated by the CNMI Area Health Education Center through the NMC Community Development Institute, which awarded the 16 participants certificates of completion during a ceremony held at the NMC Nursing Department.

The participants completed 40 hours of classroom instruction, as well as mock exams. The review also focused on the analysis of the type of questions commonly given on the NCLEX-RN along with an in-depth review of the each content area. In addition, course participants were taught test-taking and studying strategies. The course was taught by NMC nursing instructor Johnny Aldan.

"We are very happy to be of service to members in our community who are trying to pursue a career in nursing and in other fields," said acting CDI director Floyd Masga.

"It is critical to pass the NCLEX-RN in order to begin a career in nursing and we are happy to be able to assist members in our community work toward their career goals," said Masga.

For more information about the NMC Community Development Institute, contact the CDI Office at 234-5498 Ext. 1005/1010/1030 or email CDI program manager Les Ogumoro-Uludong at logumoro@nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-025

TANK 103 OUT OF SERVICE (API 653) INSPECTION AT POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced engineering and certified specialist firms for the out of service inspection and integrity testing of the above ground oil storage tank (AST) # 103 and connected pipeline within the secondary containment at CUC Power Plant No. 1 in Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) and the United States District Court entered into a Stipulated Order Number Two (SO No. 2) for Preliminary Injunctive Relief under Civil Case No. CV 08-0051 (Section 1.1). The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) filed the civil action seeking injunctive relief under the Clean Water Act (CWA), and the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This work shall satisfy the requirement in Section IV, Oil Spill Prevention and Preparedness, Paragraphs # 28 Tank System Integrity Testing Work plan and Implementation for CUC Power plants 1 and 2 Integrity Inspection Program. The Power Plants 1 and 2 are located at the Lower Base Industrial Area near Saipan seaport, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The inspection is expected to be in two phases:
1. ***Out of service pre-repair inspection after tank cleaning, and***
2. ***Final tank inspection after performing the necessary repairs based on the scope of work developed during Phase 1.***

The RFP package may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $50.00 for one set from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Proposal Conference followed by a site visit, will be held on **August 13, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Power Plant No. 1 Conference Room in Lower Base, Saipan.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"TANK 103 OUT OF SERVICE (API 653) INSPECTION AT POWER PLANT NO. 1, SAIPAN"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **August 30, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Contract will be awarded to the most responsive proposers, as adjudged CUC and US EPA. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than **August 14, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Power Generation Acting TMO via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) 1,500-GALLON AIRCRAFT RESCUE AND FIRE FIGHTING (ARFF) VEHICLE** to the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA / ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA-RA-002-13**, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Contractors are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Procurement and Delivery of One (1) 1,500-Gallon ARFF Vehicle to the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona / Rota International Airport, CPA-RA-002-13",* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2013,** to the Office of the Acting Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new aircraft rescue fire fighting vehicle in accordance with the specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED SIXTY (360) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS ($500.00)** shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", as contained in the bid proposal documents, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

A CD-Rom containing the bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ($150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2013,** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders are required to attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

The proposed contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All labor on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rates established by CNMI Law or Federal Law, whichever is higher. The Contractor shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A contractor having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.00) or more will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by US Treasury listed surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ FRANCES C. MAFNAS
Acting Chair of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: July 23, 2013

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIII, Issue No. 154

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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AP The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

What next for Edward Snowden?

Russia's decision Thursday to grant political asylum to Edward J. Snowden for a year frustrates—at least for the foreseeable future—the Obama administration's attempt to return the former National Security Agency contractor to the U.S. to stand trial. Those who regard Snowden as a heroic whistle-blower hope that the administration will now abandon its attempt to prosecute him, but that is neither likely nor desirable. We believe the administration is right to try to bring Snowden to justice, even as we acknowledge that the service he performed in exposing the breathtaking scope of U.S. electronic surveillance may entitle him to leniency.

Snowden's disclosures have inspired an overdue debate that was previously impossible because of the cloak of government secrecy that shrouded the surveillance programs. Without his revelation to the *Guardian* that the U.S. government was scooping up reams of information about the phone calls of virtually every American, there wouldn't have been a close vote in the House of Representatives about defunding that program, nor would the program's defenders be announcing their willingness to accept modifications, as Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., did this week. It's also likely that, as the result of Snowden's disclosure about the NSA's omnivorous monitoring of Internet activity by foreigners, there will be additional protection for information about Americans "incidentally" collected in that dragnet.

If the effects of Snowden's leaks are so salutary, his defenders ask, why should he be prosecuted?

One answer is that, in a society of laws, those who engage in civil disobedience should be prepared to accept some legal consequences for their actions. That principle assures that individuals will think seriously, as they should, about whether lawbreaking is justified by a higher cause. This doesn't mean that judges and juries can't take into account the motives of those who violate what they see as unjust laws. That Snowden was a whistle-blower alerting Americans to their government's questionable overreach certainly seems like grounds to seek leniency.

Another consideration in the Snowden case is that not all of his revelations involved the collection of personal information about Americans. Snowden also gave the *Guardian* a document showing that the NSA had intercepted the communications of then-Russian President Dmitry Medvedev during a Group of 20 summit in London in 2009. And Snowden revealed in an interview the specific dates and the IP addresses of computers in Hong Kong and on the Chinese mainland that had been hacked by the NSA over four years. Disclosing intelligence operations directed at foreign countries does nothing to protect Americans' privacy, and it doesn't seem to us like whistle-blowing.

Snowden is entitled to his day in court, but that won't be possible as long as Russia shelters him on the mistaken premise that he is a victim of political persecution.

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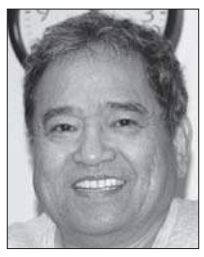
Awesome August

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



Augustus Caesar who followed Julius gave us the name of the month of August, as his Uncle gave us July. Augustus is usually associated with the "grandeur that was Rome" of Edgar Alan Poe's poem *To Helen,* which gave horoscopic folk born in August the bragging rights to us such terms as "imposing, impressive, grand, majestic, dignified, stately, noble, and eminent."

If you missed my first of August reflections, you might guess I was born in August but I have had no reason to make a claim on any of the foregoing words (save on our occasional megalomaniac posturings). One who can was born today, on the fourth day in Hawaii (fifth here). He comes with mixed review, but all things being equal, he has not done badly in my book.

Of course, there are only 12 months in a year and to categorize 7 billion folk into 12 types leaves a lot of August mooners. In fact, August-born folk on the planet lead by number per month in the planet. Birthday celebrants in my immediate family include a sister and two eldest daughters (of first and second families), a grandson and a sister-in-law. My parents' wedding anniversary is mid-month. The mother of my second family of two autistic children who shared childcare with me by DC's beltway in the '90s, and our eldest, turn 60 and 20 respectively, this month.

A short list in the U.S. who usually makes the news in August includes Steve Wozniak, the affable Apple inventor who is having a second career as a world circuit lecturer. There's Melinda Gates, the mellow better half of Bill, erstwhile of Microsoft. Larry Ellison of Oracle who is trying hard to buy back Hawaii from being a prefecture of Japan to finally make it a State of the Union, a formidable task, is also an August celebrant; also, our favorite white Pop Satchmo of all time, William Jefferson Clinton! (The original incomparable Armstrong was, of course, an August 4.)

I am just establishing the august company I keep!

It was when I turned 50 that I finally owned up to the fact that I was a perfect asshole! I mean, I intellectually acknowledged it, but most associates snickered at that before I owned up to it, which only confirmed our propensity to not see the truth about ourselves even with the staring presence of massive evidence.

My DC partner, now a Columbus, OH aforementioned mama who makes 60 on the day Warren Buffett turns 92, came to the end of her tethers in '95 and decided that I was no longer an asset in our childcare partnership. While I prided myself as a good "Mr. Mom" who kept children and house together during the day, and was a customer service associate from 6pm to midnight at a local computer store, I might have been a morose asshole at the time. That the two children in our care suffered from a neural disability made her decision the more damning.

In a huff, I got into the family car and drove off in the middle of the night from the Beltway to nowhere. I just kept following the freeway.

It would have been along the Pennsylvania Parkway heading West when a bright-eyed doe stared straight at my headlights, frozen in the middle of the road. I swerved the car to avoid it; got a jolt of adrenaline in my being into full consciousness. At a split moment, I realized I could have driven straight out into the ravine and my family could legitimately collect insurance!

The domestic rift never mended again though, and I ended up nursing my heartache halfway on the other side of the globe! My dear partner might have thought I would just move to another dwelling not too far away, but if moms could go home to Mama when they are not feeling good, this Papa decided he needed the psychological salve of family. From DC to Hawaii, I went "home."

What has this got to do with August? Nothing. Nor is it a veiled promotion to air wet linens in public just once more. No, it has to do with birthing and natal days. We all have one, and our reflection on the wobbly little worm that we are, colorfully yet endearingly called an asshole in Chicago's Uptown northshore is feeble witness to the fact that we do not always like to play the cards dealt us at birth. Not unlike the Chinese, we want to keep "face," either through accomplishments, social status, or guarded reputations. Then something like an innocent doe stares you in the eye in the middle of the night, and what has been there all along becomes transparent!

When did you encounter yourself coming and going? When did you finally own up to the full reality of who you are? Delusions don't end, by the way. Even now, I consider good friends those who rate me above five in the scale of lovable assholes!

One of the gifts of Obama-san is the seeming absence of the need to either prove himself, or to be somebody before the world. He had taken a personal history of a missionary and Muslim-exposed atheist father whose Luo ethnicity got him blacklisted by Kikuyu Kenyatta, and non-practicing Methodist-Baptist maternal relations, experienced an Indo-Islam secular household, played Oahu Punahou privilege, drove-to-succeed with syrupy speech and clear writing skills, and he wormed himself into the 44th Presidency of the United States before he was 50.

He is a good father to two daughters and a faithful husband, to boot.

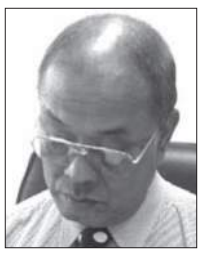
Awesome. Happy birthday, Mr. President.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Nationwide: US sex trafficking

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



Occasionally, the feds would drop an unsolicited bomb such as the CNMI being a transit for sex and human trafficking. Well, it conveniently ignored that we're no longer in charge of immigration. It's with U.S. Homeland Security or USIMS or both. But nothing stops federal agencies from injecting distortion in an attempt to ruin the islands.

Be that it may, this week CNN came out with a scathing story about sex trafficking and child prostitution across the entire US of A. It's the second largest industry today, dovetailing with illegal drugs. Professor Bridgette Carr, head of the Human Trafficking Clinic at the University of Michigan Law School reports:

'The global commercial sex trade exploits one million children annually. At least 100,000 and perhaps as many as 300,000 children in America are victims of sex trafficking each year. It's a combination of children being trafficked for sex and child prostitution. This problem is nationwide or in every state.

'The children victimized by sex trafficking are often very young. On average, girls are first exploited for commercial sex between the ages of 12 and 14. For boys the average age is even younger—between 11 and 13. Of course, this doesn't include the larger number of children being subjected to sex and prostitution in other parts of the world such as Asia."

At least it's now clear that the feds has willfully used the CNMI as a distraction only to confirm its Machiavellian agenda of purposeful deception.

The next time you wish to blow your whistle, please do so by including whether the perpetrators are Chamorro or Carolinian. Could this information be included as part of your scandal sheet? Evidently, sex trafficking in Guam missed any mention that involves police officers. Is there a reason for this omission? No worries! We have also learned our hooked on phonics.

A perilous journey ahead

A silent conspiracy started years ago to shut down the retirement program. You look closely at the chronology of events that led to the bankruptcy of the Fund.

Impeached former governor Benigno Fitial started the ball rolling when he ensured approval of a law absolving the administration's obligatory remittance of employer's contribution unless the Fund asks for it.

Legislative political geniuses chimed in. They piled costs that include beneficiaries of retirees who never paid anything into the program. The Fund loaned some $13 million to the Judiciary for its building it now finds difficult repaying. Then there's the half-baked housing program.

As though these aren't sufficient to ensure the insolvency of the Fund, legislators decided it was fine to terminate "corresponding contributions" that feeds it money for retirees' pay. It died after several years without sustenance. Evil geniuses quiz: Now what?

It's obvious the persistent silent conspiracy to end the program given that it's a drain on the resources of the CNMI. It became critically acute when the economy went bust. It's an obligation the CNMI thought it could skirt, but the darn skirt is all over their faces suffocating each genius.

Retirees have met their end of their contractual agreement. Let's say that your pension is $10K per year. A 25-percent reduction translates into $2,500. I venture to say that those earning between $10K-$30K would be hardest hit in that their salary is right below or above the threshold of poverty level income (figures differ and based on number of people per family of $15-$26K).

At any rate, it's the last income upon which retirees pay real estate loan or the only family home, the only family car, health insurance, and other familial obligation. It turns the wellbeing of families into rigor mortis or paralysis as they search for food stamps and Medicaid qualifications. It's basically a new life in the Gulag of economic misery.

I tried to pitch in realistic ideas to prevent the beast of insolvency from taking permanent hold. But one is dealing with politicians who are clueless of the benefits of the power of ideas. Why would they refuse the use of principle base reasoning to fix their own mess, a creature riddled with death and destruction of nearly 3,000 retirees?

Appalling the inability to understand there are now 6,000 jobless folk. Add some 3,000 retirees to the penniless and hopeless wish list of Covenant, Independent Republican, and Republican. Let's see how they'd fare justifying tons of inaction to improve the lot of the multitude!

The Obamacare train wreck

Employees at the IRS, specifically those tasked to implement the 600-page Obamacare regulations, have opted out of the program. Even its chief refuses to enroll in it. Moreover, members of Congress who were servile to Nancy Pelosi's recommendation of "let's pass it and figure out what it says later" have equally opted out of the program, including congressional staff.

Republican governors Bobby Jindal of Louisiana and Scott Walker of Wisconsin said, "As governors…we have seen the trouble the law poses for our own state economies. The most recent evidence: The government now says that it will not verify the eligibility of individuals who apply for subsidized insurance on the healthcare exchanges," they said.

"Governors have first-hand experience with implementing public-assistance programs. We know how important it is to care for our most vulnerable citizens and to ensure that people are healthy and able to work.

"We also know that a one-size-fits-all approach like Obamacare simply doesn't work," Jindal and Walker added. "It only creates new problems and inequalities. That's why if you look at all 50 states, you'll see 50 unique ways of handling Medicaid."

"Delaying implementation of Obamacare, not just the employer mandate, is a reasonable idea," they said. "But an even better one would be a complete repeal.

■■■

The U.S. Congress wants out of Obamacare, the package it approved subscribing to Pelosi's recommendation. But what's the source of authority freeing itself of the beast while leaving the multitude in the filthy swamp of a recklessly careless healthcare system?

Same sex US fiancée visa petitions now OK—but beware of scammers

By TED LAGUATAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

The California State Bar honors attorney Ted Laguatan as one of less than 29 U.S. lawyers officially certified continuously for almost 25 years now as expert-specialists in Immigration Law. His email: laguatanlaw@gmail.com.

Last month, the U.S. Supreme Court decided that the Defense of Marriage Act, or DOMA, is unconstitutional. Essentially, DOMA was a federal law that defines a legal marriage as that between a man and a woman. By striking it down as being unconstitutional, this meant that laws in various states allowing same sex marriages are now considered legal.

This major U.S. Supreme Court decision has far-reaching ramifications. For all practical and theoretical purposes, same sex spouses will now be treated legally as similar to opposite sex spouses. They will have the same legal benefits and liabilities as opposite sex spouses. For example: Real or personal property, acquired during marriage, generally becomes community property (unless the source of the acquisition funds is identified and recognized as separate property belonging to only one of the spouses). The debt of one party generally also becomes community debt with some exceptions. Issues about social security benefits, pension rights, insurance coverage, widow or widower benefits, estate inheritance, etc., are all affected.

Shortly after the U.S. Supreme Court decision, U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano issued a directive that henceforth, same sex spouses will have the same benefits under U.S. immigration laws as opposite sex spouses. For example: Immigrant visas can now be filed by U.S. citizens for their same sex spouses. Those entering the U.S. on non-immigrant working visas or investors' visas can also now include their same sex spouses as their dependents.

But these same sex spousal benefits are conditional on the marriage being legal in the country or state where it took place. Currently, there are 15 countries including the U.S. where same sex marriage is considered legal: Belgium, Netherlands, South Africa, Norway, Uruguay, Argentina, Spain, Canada, France, New Zealand, Iceland, Portugal, Sweden, and Brazil.

For countries where same sex marriage is not legal like the Philippines and others, many ask me if there are other alternatives to bring their same sex boyfriends or girlfriends to the U.S. One way of course is to go to any of the mentioned countries above and get married there. But this involves securing visas, hotel and travel expenses, lengthy travel times, language problems, making marriage arrangements and other hassles.

In my column article three weeks ago, I suggested utilizing fiancée (or fiancé) visa petitions that I conjectured could be a viable option. I theorized that even if the couple is not yet married, they will be getting married in the U.S. in a state (like California) where same sex marriage is now legal. I figured that Secretary Napolitano, a reasonable person—and other equally reasonable people involved in determining immigration policy—would not object to fiancée visa petitions in same sex relationships as it is in keeping with the spirit of the law. I figured correctly.

Six days ago, Napolitano issued another official directive to U.S. Immigration and Citizenship Services stating that henceforth, I-129 Fiancee Visa petitions by U.S. citizens in same sex relationships will be honored and processed by her agency. This is a tremendous benefit for those coming from countries like the Philippines where same sex marriage is not considered legal. They can now come to the U.S. on fiancée visas and get married here.

Currently, the processing time for fiancée visa petitions is from five to eight months. When the fiancée arrives in the U.S., the couple needs to get married within 90 days after which the fiancée may apply for adjustment of status to secure her immigrant visa.

As in so many other immigration law matters, certain complex issues and details are involved. The services of competent and honest immigration lawyers can be very valuable. But please, be careful of crooks and scammers. I consistently warn immigrant communities and individuals about: 1) Non-licensed individuals practicing law or doing illegal things. 2) Licensed lawyers who file frivolous asylum claims that may temporarily provide employment authorization to applicants but which are eventually denied administratively, subjecting applicants to removal proceedings in court. 3) Licensed lawyers who advertise heavily and charge clients enormous fees.

Many of these lawyers who advertise heavily are not even officially certified by the State Bar as specialists or experts in immigration law but charge as much as 15 times more than certified expert-specialists. Who do you think pays for their costly advertisements?

Call the State Bar to verify whether a lawyer is a certified immigration law specialist or expert. State Bars regulate lawyers.

To be fair, even those lawyers not certified as expert-specialists in immigration law by the State Bar in a state is not prohibited from practicing immigration law. But being officially certified as an expert guarantees the client that the lawyer knows his stuff. To be a certified expert-specialist, the lawyer must pass a difficult set of exams and must have had extensive experience in practically all the different kinds of immigration law cases.

It's a good idea to consult with two or three lawyers before deciding on which one to retain. This is money well spent. A competent honest lawyer can really help and can save the client a lot of headaches and money.

From 1990 to 2008, a Filipino-American woman who styled herself as a "Bonded Immigration Law Consultant" operated offices in different parts of the U.S., purportedly providing legal services to mostly Filipino immigrants. She had offices in San Jose, La Jolla, Beverly Hills, and New York City. In 2008, federal authorities raided her offices and seized her files. According to the charges filed against her, she victimized numerous unsuspecting undocumented immigrants charging them more than $7,000 each, giving them the false promise that they would eventually get their immigrant visas if they have an approved Alien Labor Certification from the Department of Labor and an employment-based petition filed for them. The reality is that in general, an undocumented or overstaying alien cannot adjust his or her status on the basis of an employment-based petition.

Most of the woman's victims were either Filipino owners of care or nursing homes who paid for her fees or undocumented immigrant employees of these facilities who gave her monthly payments from their limited incomes. After more than three years of investigation, a federal grand jury indicted her in May 2010. She is charged with numerous counts of immigration, mail and tax fraud. Federal authorities allege that she earned millions, which she did not properly declare in her income tax returns. Her case is ongoing.

Unsuspecting hardworking innocent undocumented immigrants with limited resources eager to legalize their papers often fall victims to greedy no-compassion scammers who cause them so much pain and suffering. So, be careful.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in the morning, then isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼76°

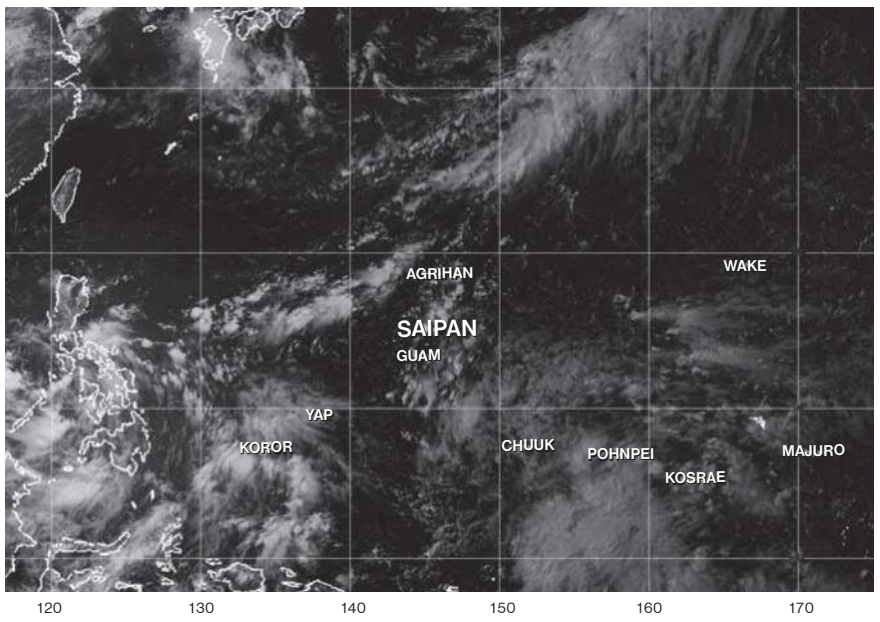
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲89	▼81
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼75
Yap	Showers	▲90	▼77
Chuuk	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86	▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲86	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Thundershowers	▲89	▼81
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲94	▼75
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲89	▼81
Honolulu	Sunny	▲86	▼74
London	Showers	▲75	▼60
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲77	▼61
Manila	Thundershowers	▲90	▼79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲91	▼77
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼59
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲91	▼79
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲88	▼64
Pusan	Windy	▲87	▼78
Rome	Sunny	▲95	▼76
Salem	Sunny	▲91	▼59
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼53
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲88	▼78
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼64

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends eastward from the Philippines through 7N130E to end near 5N140E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near Koror and of Yap between the equator and 12N from 130E to 140E. Upper-level divergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from southeast of guam to south of Wake island within 200 miles of a line from 9N146E to 14N169E. A tropical disturbance south of Chuuk and Pohnpei is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae states south of a line from 7N150E to 9N162E to 6N170E. A weak cold front extends southwestward from 25N140E to end near 17N134E. Isolated thunderstorms exist from the northern CNMI to well north of Koror within 160 miles of a line from 15N136E to 25N149E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:44 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
6:44 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
2:07 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
8:56 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:00 AM	6:46 PM
Tuesday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM
Wednesday	6:01 AM	6:45 PM
Thursday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM
Friday	6:01 AM	6:44 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:22 AM	5:24 PM
Tuesday	5:11 AM	6:06 PM
Wednesday	6:01 AM	6:47 PM
Thursday	6:50 AM	7:27 PM
Friday	7:39 AM	8:07 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 23, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)

SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7

SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)

XF1734	4:15pm	10:30pm	4 Every other week eff May 16

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:05pm	Daily via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
US5074/PR111	11:20am	4:35pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	1, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN

SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7

VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN

XF1733	11:20am	3:25pm	4 Every other week eff May 16

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

PR110/UA5072	7:55am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	8:00am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Business

OSHA cites Guam Shipyard with 61 violations

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has cited Guam Industrial Services Inc. in Santa Rita, doing business as Guam Shipyard, for a total of 61 alleged violations of workplace safety and health standards. The company faces a total of $293,450 in proposed fines following an inspection conducted by OSHA's Honolulu Area Office between January and February under the agency's Local Emphasis Program for Shipyards. The alleged violations include 46 serious, seven repeat, and eight other-than-serious violations.

"Both the number and seriousness of safety and health violations we identified during our inspection are cause for grave concern," said Galen Lemke, director of OSHA's Honolulu Area Office. "We hope the results of our inspection will serve as a wake-up call, not only for this employer but for others, about the importance of ensuring workplace safety and health for workers in Guam's maritime industry."

The 46 serious safety and health violations include electrical hazards, such as failure to guard lights from damage, ground equipment, provide covers on electrical box openings, and ensure wiring was protected from abrasion and strain. The employer was also cited for the lack of guardrail protections; failure to establish and implement a lockout/tagout program; lack of a respiratory protection program; failure to maintain good housekeeping practices; and failure to check, inspect and maintain portable fire extinguishers. Workers were also exposed to metal fumes and were not properly wearing respiratory protection. Inspectors found that the employer did not conduct air monitoring to determine workers' exposure level to cadmium. A serious violation occurs when there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

The seven repeat violations, totaling $145,000, include inadequate guardrails and fall prevention, failure to remove defective gear used with cranes, lack of eye protection and electrical wiring hazards.

The company has 15 business days from receipt of its citations and proposed penalties to comply, meet with OSHA's area director or contest the findings to the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

To ask questions, obtain compliance assistance, file a complaint, or report workplace hospitalizations, fatalities or situations posing imminent danger to workers, the public should call OSHA's toll-free hotline at 800-321-OSHA (6742) or the agency's Honolulu office at 808-541-2680. Small businesses may also request assistance at no charge from the Guam Department of Labor On-Site Consultation Program at 671-300-4620 or by email at anthony.anderson@dol.guam.gov.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit http://www.osha.gov. ***(OSHA)***

United Airlines is ATW's eco-aviation gold winner

CHICAGO—United Airlines was named the Eco-Aviation "Airline of the Year" Gold Winner by Air Transport World magazine, the top award granted by ATW in its annual Eco-Aviation Awards. The "Eco-Airline of the Year" award recognizes an airline in global commercial aviation for its eco-aviation leadership as demonstrated by consistent and impactful environmental action within the company and in the industry. United was awarded for making its environment policies a priority, actively engaging in climate change and biofuels working groups and initiatives, and for its dedication to a broad set of activities that improve both the airline's efficiency and the environment in which it operates.

"This is a great honor for United and I'm proud of the work that my co-workers do every day to be responsible stewards for the environment," said Jeff Smisek, chairman, president and chief executive officer of United Airlines. "Our initiatives are paying off as we reduce United's environmental footprint and work together toward a sustainable future for our company and our industry."

United's Eco-Skies program maintains the company's commitment to the environment and includes actions taken every day to create a sustainable future. United's recent environmental achievements include:

FLEET

■ United has more than 290 fuel-efficient aircraft on order and was the U.S. launch customer for the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, which represents a significant advancement in aircraft innovation and achieves a 20 percent improvement in fuel efficiency versus the aircraft it is replacing. United recently increased its Dreamliner order to 65, and the airline will be the launch customer for the Boeing 787-10, a stretched version of the 787 that will offer the lowest fuel burn per seat of any aircraft of its size. The airline also has 35 Airbus A350-1000s on order which will consume approximately 20 percent less fuel per seat than the widebody aircraft it will replace.

■ United has installed fuel-saving winglets on more than 330 mainline aircraft, and was also the launch partner for the new Split Scimitar Winglet, which will reduce CO2 emissions by 600 tons per aircraft per year and improve fuel efficiency by approximately 2 percent.

FUEL EFFICIENCY

■ United is on track to meet its 2013 goal to reduce fuel usage by 85 million gallons and associated carbon emissions by 828,750 metric tons.

■ Last year, the company saved 83 million gallons of fuel due to fleet replacement and fuel-efficiency initiatives, reducing carbon emissions by 811,000 metric tons.

ADVANCING ALTERNATIVE AVIATION FUELS

■ In June 2013, United announced an historic partnership with AltAir Fuels with an agreement to purchase 15 million gallons of commercial-scale and cost-competitive advanced aviation biofuels for flights out of the airline's Los Angeles hub as early as 2014.

■ United spearheaded the Midwest Aviation Sustainable Biofuel Initiative—a public/private collaboration of more than 40 nationally recognized organizations focused on accelerating the commercialization of advanced biofuels for aviation (2012).

United achieved several milestones with biofuels:

■ First U.S. commercial flight powered by advanced biofuel (2011).

■ First North American commercial airline to operate a demonstration flight using synthetic fuel made from natural gas (2010).

■ First North American carrier to perform a two-engine aircraft flight demonstration using sustainable biofuels (2009).

FACILITY AND PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

■ Since 2008, United has recycled more than 23.5 million pounds of aluminum cans, paper and plastic items from waste generated inflight and at its facilities.

■ United incorporated energy efficiency features in the design and construction of the new Terminal B at its Houston hub.

■ The airline designed its United Clubs to incorporate many sustainable design elements including LED lighting, low-flow toilets and lavatories, porcelain tiling and sustainable fabrics and fixtures.

■ United's new Data Center currently under construction is designed to achieve approximately 50 percent energy savings.

■ United's headquarters offices in Chicago achieved Silver LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification.

■ United's new Cargo facility at its Chicago hub has a vegetative green roof and is currently the sixth largest green roof in North America.

SUPPLIER AND CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT

■ United launched the Sustainable Supply Chain initiative to better understand the environmental performance of its suppliers and deepen relationships with its key supply chain partners (2013).

■ United's enhanced carbon offset program allows its customers to calculate and offset the carbon footprint associated with their air travel and cargo shipments and direct their support to three certified projects near communities that United serves.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS

■ The United Eco-Skies Community Grants program awards $50,000 to 10 non-profits located in its hub communities, such as the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park and the Prince William Environmental Excellence Foundation, to promote engagement and volunteerism.

■ United supports and partners with hub-based environmental organizations as well as national and international organizations such as Conservation International and Sustainable Travel International. ***(United)***

Breadfruit pushed as new industry for Palau, Pacific

From left, Tchuzie Tadao, director of Development, Palau Community College, Dr. Patrick U. Tellei, president, Palau Community College, and Dr. Tusi Avegalio, director of the Pacific Business Center Program at the Shidler College of Business Administration, University of Hawaii. PCC

On July 30, 2013 Dr. Tusi Avegalio, director of the Pacific Business Center Program at the Shidler College of Business Administration, University of Hawaii, met with Dr. Patrick U. Tellei, president of Palau Community College, to share information about a regional economic development and food security initiative centered around breadfruit.

Breadfruit is a fruit that is found in the Pacific and South Asian regions. Recently, it has been discovered that the breadfruit is a gluten-free food source. Gluten-free food products have become a staple in food markets around the world having reached a value of $4.2 billion in 2012. This number is expected to rise to $6.6 billion by 2017. Places such as the Philippines and Jamaica have successfully processed breadfruit into flour, a byproduct of the breadfruit that sells well on the food markets.

Dr. Avegalio believes that the Pacific islands can benefit from the agricultural production of breadfruit in the food market.

Research led by Dr. Diane Ragone, an expert on Pacific breadfruit and director of the National Tropical Botanical Garden Breadfruit Institute, has found that thousands of breadfruit plantlets can be produced in weeks. Instead of the expected seven plus years needed for planting and harvesting, breadfruit can now be produced in two to three years. By taking advantage of the Dr. Ragone's research results, islands in the Pacific can garner a stronghold in the gluten-free food market.

According to Dr. Tusi Avegalio, the commercialization of breadfruit at an industrial scale for export has not yet occurred anywhere in the world. He is currently working with C.H. Robinson in the development of breadfruit flour. C.H. Robinson is one of the largest logistics and distributor of food products worldwide. Its clients include Subway, Whole Foods Market, Trader Joe's, and Krogers.

Because it is a familiar agricultural product on the islands, he believes that by forming a connection with bigger companies the islands can benefit from the export of the fruit. Local production of the breadfruit can occur on a small scale: instead of acres of breadfruit farms, islanders may harvest the fruit on a grassroots level. A current business strategy for breadfruit production will supply families with 20 propagated breadfruit plugs. Families will then harvest the fruit and sell it directly to the wholesaler. This will reduce cost and maintenance associated with massive monocropping while providing an income boost for the islands.

Production analysis and product development on breadfruit flour is being led by Dr. Alvin Huang, technical director of the Agricultural Diagnostic Service Center at the College of Tropical Agriculture, University of Hawaii. Dr. Huang is collaborating with Dr. Fadi Aramouni of the Food Science Institute at Kansas State University in the production of breadfruit flour and its refinement needs for market testing. Manufacturing of the breadfruit will be conducted by the Advance Manufacturing Institute and the International Grains Program at Kansas State University.

Breadfruit farming is a regional economic development initiative that can benefit the entire Pacific region. Centers for breadfruit production can be built in the far West Pacific (Marianas Islands and Belau), Central Pacific (Federated States of Micronesia), East Pacific (Marshall Islands), and the South Pacific (American Samoa). All centers would be linked to Hawaii where the fruits are consolidated, production refined, packaged, and exported to the United States market. The breadfruit can become a main export of the Pacific islands opening a door to industries outside the sphere of tourism. ***(PCC)***

Nation

Top US officials meet to discuss embassy threat

WASHINGTON (AP)—Top U.S. officials met Saturday to review the threat of a terrorist attack that led to the weekend closure of 21 U.S. embassies and consulates in the Muslim world and a global travel warning to Americans. President Barack Obama was briefed following the session, the White House said.

Obama's national security adviser, Susan Rice, led the meeting and then joined Lisa Monaco, Obama's assistant for homeland security and counterterrorism, in briefing the president, the White House said in a statement.

"The president has received frequent briefings over the last week on all aspects of the potential threat and our preparedness measures," according to the statement.

Among those at the meeting Saturday afternoon were the secretaries of state, defense and homeland security and the directors of the FBI, CIA and the National Security Agency, according to the White House. Also attending was Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In an interview Friday with ABC News, Dempsey said officials had determined there was "a significant threat stream" and that the threat was more specific than previous ones. The "intent is to attack Western, not just U.S. interests," he said.

The global travel warning was the first such alert since an announcement before the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The warning comes less than a year since the deadly September attack on a U.S. diplomatic post in Benghazi, Libya, and with the Obama administration and Congress determined to prevent any similar breach of an American embassy or consulate.

The State Department's warning urged U.S. travelers to take extra precautions overseas. It cited potential dangers involved with public transportation systems and other prime sites for tourists, and noted that previous attacks have centered on subway and rail networks as well as airplanes and boats.

Travelers were advised to sign up for State Department alerts and register with U.S. consulates in the countries they visit.

The statement said that al-Qaida or its allies might target either U.S. government or private American interests. The alert expires on Aug. 31.

The State Department said the potential for terrorism was particularly acute in the Middle East and North Africa, with a possible attack occurring on or coming from the Arabian Peninsula. The diplomatic facilities affected stretch from Mauritania in northwest Africa to Afghanistan.

U.S. officials pointed specifically to Yemen, the home of al-Qaida's most dangerous affiliate and the network blamed for several notable plots against the United States, from the foiled Christmas Day 2009 effort to bomb an airliner over Detroit to the explosives-laden parcels intercepted the following year aboard cargo flights.

"Current information suggests that al-Qaida and affiliated organizations continue to plan terrorist attacks both in the region and beyond, and that they may focus efforts to conduct attacks in the period between now and the end of August," a department statement said.

Car plows into crowd in LA; 1 killed, 11 others hurt

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A driver plowed into a crowd walking along one of the most popular beach boardwalks in Southern California Saturday evening, killing one person, injuring 11 others and leaving behind a chaotic scene strewn with bleeding victims, officials and witnesses said.

The victim died at a hospital a few hours after the crash at the Venice Beach boardwalk, Los Angeles police Lt. Andy Neiman said.

At about the same time a person was taken into custody for questioning and a car was impounded in neighboring Santa Monica, and detectives were determining if both were the ones they'd been seeking, Neiman said.

Neiman would give no details on the identity of the victim or the person of interest.

The sandy-haired man drove the powerful midsized Dodge Avenger into vendors and tourists as they walked along the paved pedestrian walkway of the storied boardwalk. Police and witnesses said bloodied victims and knocked over mannequins and lawn chairs were left in the wake.

Witnesses told firefighters it appeared the man was in control of his car as he ran people down, but police said they did not know his motives.

"If this was an intentional act that certainly raises the stakes quite a bit," Neiman said.

Ten of the 12 victims were taken to hospitals, city Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey said. Of the 11 survivors, one was in critical condition and two in serious condition, Humphrey said.

Alex Hagan, 22, who was working the front desk at the Cadillac Hotel, said the man was sitting in his parked car on the street right next to the boardwalk and his hotel when he suddenly started the engine and accelerated, swerving past yellow poles meant to keep cars off the pedestrian walkway.

"I heard a big `boom, boom,' like the sound of someone going up and down the curb, it was super loud," Hagan told The Associated Press."

The car knocked down two mannequins then ran into vendors selling at their booths, Hagan said.

Many rushed to help the injured while others ran after the car screaming and cursing, Hagan said.

Firefighters surveyed the sprawling crowd looking for injured immediately after the crash, Humphrey said. Hours later police surveyed the same ground for evidence.

Pa. couple's best man: their dying 2-year-old son

JEANNETTE, Pa. (AP)—Looking dapper in a tiny tan pinstripe suit and orange shirt, a 2-year-old boy with only weeks to live served as the best man for his parents' Pennsylvania wedding.

Christine Swidorsky carried Logan Stevenson on her shoulder at the Saturday afternoon wedding in Jeannette, a suburb of Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported.

Logan stood with his grandmother, Debbie Stevenson, during a 12-minute ceremony uniting Logan's mother and his father, Sean Stevenson. The boy has leukemia and other complications.

"We're married," Swidorsky exclaimed joyously after kissing her groom to applause from family and friends.

After a whirlwind week, the Jeannette couple tied the knot in a hastily arranged backyard ceremony that formalized their union and celebrated Logan's life, which doctors say will be cut short soon by cancer.

The Stevensons abandoned an original wedding date of July 2014 after learning from doctors late last month that their son had two to three weeks to live. The couple wanted Logan to see them marry and to be part of family photos.

AP

Christine Swidorsky carries her son and the couple's best man, Logan Stevenson, 2, down the aisle to her husband-to-be Sean Stevenson during the wedding ceremony on Saturday, Aug. 3, 2013 in Jeannette, Pa. Logan stood with his grandmother, Debbie Stevenson, during a 12-minute ceremony uniting Logan's mother and his father.

Logan dozed off and on during the ceremony, nestled on his grandmother's shoulder, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported. Debbie Stevenson said he is on medication to make him comfortable, but it also makes him sleepy.

Swidorsky's mother died six years ago and her father died just two months ago, the newspaper said.

Logan, who was born Oct. 22, 2010, was diagnosed shortly after his first birthday with acute myeloid leukemia. He has Fanconi anemia, a rare disease that often leads to cancer.

He endured a stem cell transplant in July 2012. Last March, he underwent surgery to remove a kidney ravaged by a tumor.

During a Make-A-Wish trip to Disney World in June, Logan fell ill. He was hospitalized in Florida before he was flown back to Pittsburgh.

During a trip to the emergency room last month, a test revealed a mass in his remaining kidney, which led to his terminal prognosis. Logan is spending his remaining days at home, where he is showered with attention from family members.

Swidorsky's daughter, Isabella Johns, 13, served as bridesmaid and the couple's 1-year-old daughter, Savannah, was her parents' flower girl.

"This is our dream come true," Swidorsky said through tears, the Post-Gazette reported.

Actors with fake guns bring police with real ones

LOS ANGELES (AP)—College filmmakers were using fake guns to shoot a robbery scene at a suburban Los Angeles coffee shop when the movie took a scary twist that wasn't in the script.

Eight police officers were descending on the masked actors. The police were real, with very real guns drawn, and had no idea this was a movie.

"Drop the gun! Drop it! Drop it!" one officer yells on an audio recording police were carrying.

One of the actors immediately let go of his fake assault rifle. But another held onto his replica handgun, forcing officers to make a life-or-death choice. An officer knocked the gun from the actor's hand and handcuffed him, drawing a peaceful climax to what could have been something far worse.

"One of the officers made the decision that had the man moved, he would have been killed," said Glendora police Capt. Tim Staab. "It was just milliseconds from a tragedy."

Police said it showed the dangers of movie-making for amateur film crews who don't get permits and follow proper steps before taking to the streets.

"I can't think of a situation more dangerous than having a gun in your hand with cops responding," Staab said. "It was much closer than we ever want to get close to."

Attempts to reach the film's director were unsuccessful. The students declined to tell police what college they were from.

The officers responded to the shop after receiving a 911 call from a woman who reported seeing an armed, masked gunman inside Classic Coffee in Glendora, a suburb east of Los Angeles that rarely sees Hollywood film crews.

Police said there was nothing to indicate a short movie was being shot. No one was outside to warn customers, there were no signs, and no permit had been pulled.

When officers arrived, there was no question in their mind that a robbery was occurring, Staab said.

It's rare "to go into a coffee shop and see someone carrying an AR-15 rifle and wearing a mask," he said.

Asia

New Zealand botulism scare triggers global recall

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—New Zealand authorities have triggered a global recall of up to 1,000 tons of dairy products across seven countries after dairy giant Fonterra announced tests had turned up a type of bacteria that could cause botulism.

New Zealand's Ministry of Primary Industries said Saturday that the tainted products include infant formula, sports drinks, protein drinks and other beverages. It said countries affected beside New Zealand include China, Australia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam and Saudi Arabia.

Fonterra said its customers were urgently checking their supply chains.

One New Zealand company has locked down five batches of infant formula and China is asking importers to immediately recall products.

Fonterra is the world's fourth-largest dairy company, with annual revenues of about $16 billion.

The news comes as a blow to New Zealand's dairy industry, which powers the country's economy. New Zealand exports about 95 percent of its milk.

Consumers in China and elsewhere are willing to pay a big premium for New Zealand infant formula because the country has a clean and healthy reputation. Chinese consumers have a special interest after tainted local milk formula killed six babies in 2008.

The Centers for Disease Control describes botulism as a rare but sometimes fatal paralytic illness caused by a nerve toxin.

Fonterra said it has told eight of its customers of the problem, which dates back more than a year, and they were investigating whether any of the affected product is in their supply chains. Fonterra said those companies will initiate any consumer product recalls.

At a news conference Saturday, Fonterra repeatedly refused to divulge the companies, countries or specific products affected. Gary Romano, the managing director of Fonterra's New Zealand milk products, said his company supplies raw materials to the eight companies and it is up to them to inform their consumers of what products might be tainted.

The company did acknowledge its chief executive, Theo Spierings, planned to fly to China Saturday, in part to deal with the fallout from the botulism scare.

New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries said Saturday that New Zealand company Nutricia had used some of the tainted product in its Karicare line of formula for infants aged over 6 months. Nutricia had locked down all five batches of infant formula it believed contained the tainted product, the ministry said. But it advised that parents should buy different Nutricia products or alternative brands until it verified the location of all tainted Nutricia products.

In this Oct 14, 2004 photo, Fonterra's Hautapu dairy factory is seen in the Waikato, New Zealand.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Flash floods kill 35 in east Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghan officials say flash floods have killed at least 35 people in four eastern provinces, while an estimated 50 people are still missing. Provincial spokesmen in Nangarhar, Kabul, Khost, and Nuristan said on Sunday that all the floods had occurred early Saturday. Flash floods are common in all those provinces. In Kabul's Surobi district, police chief Shaghasi Ahmadi said 13 people were killed and up to 50 were missing in a remote and mountainous area. Surobi has a number of rivers running through it. It is also rife with Taliban activity. Downstream in the adjacent province of Nangarhar, an announcement said 17 people were killed by the floods. President Hamid Karzai's office said another seven died in Khost and Nuristan.

Heavy rains sweep across Pakistan, killing 14

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)—Heavy rains that swept across Pakistan brought down more than 100 homes and caved in a factory wall, killing at least 14 people in the downpours Saturday, officials said. The rains caused about 120 houses to collapse in different areas of northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, killing at least eight people, said Latifur Rehman, a provincial disaster management spokesman. In southwest Baluchistan province, heavy rain caused the wall of a factory to buckle in the town of Hub, killing six people, including four children, police officer Hidayat Baluch said. Three people were injured, he said. Also Saturday, police said unknown gunmen ambushed and killed four police officers in their patrol vehicle overnight in the restive southern port city of Karachi.

9 Afghans killed in attack on Indian consulate

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Three suicide bombers tried to attack the Indian consulate in an eastern Afghan city on Saturday, sparking a shootout with guards on a bustling downtown street that left at least nine civilians dead, official said. The attack, which ended when the militants detonated a car bomb that left charred debris scattered in central Jalalabad near the Pakistan border, did not appear to damage the consulate itself, and Indian officials said all of the facility's staff escaped unharmed. The Taliban denied responsibility for the attack, and suspicion instead fell upon Pakistan-based terrorist groups that have been blamed for deadly violence against Indian interests in Afghanistan in the past.

Australians to go to the polls on Sept. 7

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Prime Minister Kevin Rudd called an election on Sept. 7 and said Sunday that it will be fought over who can be trusted to manage the Australian economy as it transitions from a decade-old mining boom fed by Chinese industrial demand that is now fading. In starting the five-week election campaign, Rudd said the economy can no longer rely on Chinese demand for iron ore and coal that made the country one of the few wealthy nations to avoid a recession during the global economic downturn. "The boom, of course, has fuelled so much of our nation's wealth," he told reporters at Parliament House. "That boom is over." "Who do the Australian people trust to best lead them through the new economic challenges that lie ahead?" he asked. Rudd conceded that his center-left Labor Party was the underdog, saying his advisers had told him that if the election had been held this weekend, his government would have lost. But opinion polls also show that more voters prefer Rudd as prime minister than opposition leader Tony Abbott.

Philippines, Vietnam discuss sea feud with China

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines' top diplomat said he and his Vietnamese counterpart discussed Thursday how their governments can work together to deal with territorial disputes with China, including a possible sharing of information to better guard their territories from intrusions.

Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Pham Binh Minh agreed in their meeting in Manila to ask the regional bloc, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, to seek an early start of negotiations with China on a legally binding accord to prevent an armed conflict from breaking out in the disputed South China Sea. The territorial rifts were high in the agenda of the meeting, which also touched on increasing trade and a possible extradition pact.

Chinese diplomats and those from the 10-member ASEAN have agreed to soon hold consultations on how such a "code of conduct" in the South China Sea should be concluded. Del Rosario said ASEAN should insist negotiations should start immediately after the consultations.

"We want them to take a giant step on China," del Rosario told reporters after meeting with the Vietnamese delegation. "We decided among ourselves that consultation probably is not enough. We need to talk about negotiations."

Del Rosario said they also discussed China's recent offer to jointly develop disputed areas.

He said the Philippines and Vietnam have a similar position of not accepting any joint venture such as oil and gas exploration with China if Beijing insists that it has sovereignty over the areas to be jointly developed.

Chinese President Xi Jinping said Wednesday that Beijing would put aside territorial disputes and seek joint maritime development but insist it has sovereignty over such areas.

"We must insist that the sovereignty belongs to us, but we can shelve the disputes, pursue joint development, promote mutually beneficial, friendly cooperation, and seek and widen common interests," the state-run China Central Television quoted Xi as saying.

Many fear the long-unresolved territorial conflicts, which involve the three countries along with Brunei, Malaysia and Taiwan, could spark an armed conflict and disrupt the region's economic growth.

Talking humanoid robot launches on Japan rocket

TOKYO (AP)—The first talking humanoid robot "astronaut" has taken off in a rocket.

Kirobo—derived from the Japanese words for "hope" and "robot"—was among five tons of supplies and machinery on a rocket launched Sunday for the International Space Station from Tanegashima, southwestern Japan, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA, said.

The childlike robot was designed to be a companion for astronaut Koichi Wakata, and will communicate with another robot on Earth, according to developers. Wakata is expected to arrive at the space station in November.

Robot designer Tomotaka Takahashi, of the University of Tokyo, advertiser Dentsu and automaker Toyota Motor Corp. worked on the robot.

The challenge was making sure it could move and talk where there was no gravity.

Ahead of the launch, the 34-centimeter (13-inch) tall Kirobo told reporters, "one small step for me, a giant leap for robots."

Japan boasts the most sophisticated robotics in the world, but because of its "manga" culture, it tends to favor cute robots with human-like characteristics with emotional appeal, a use of technology that has at times drawn criticism for being not productive.

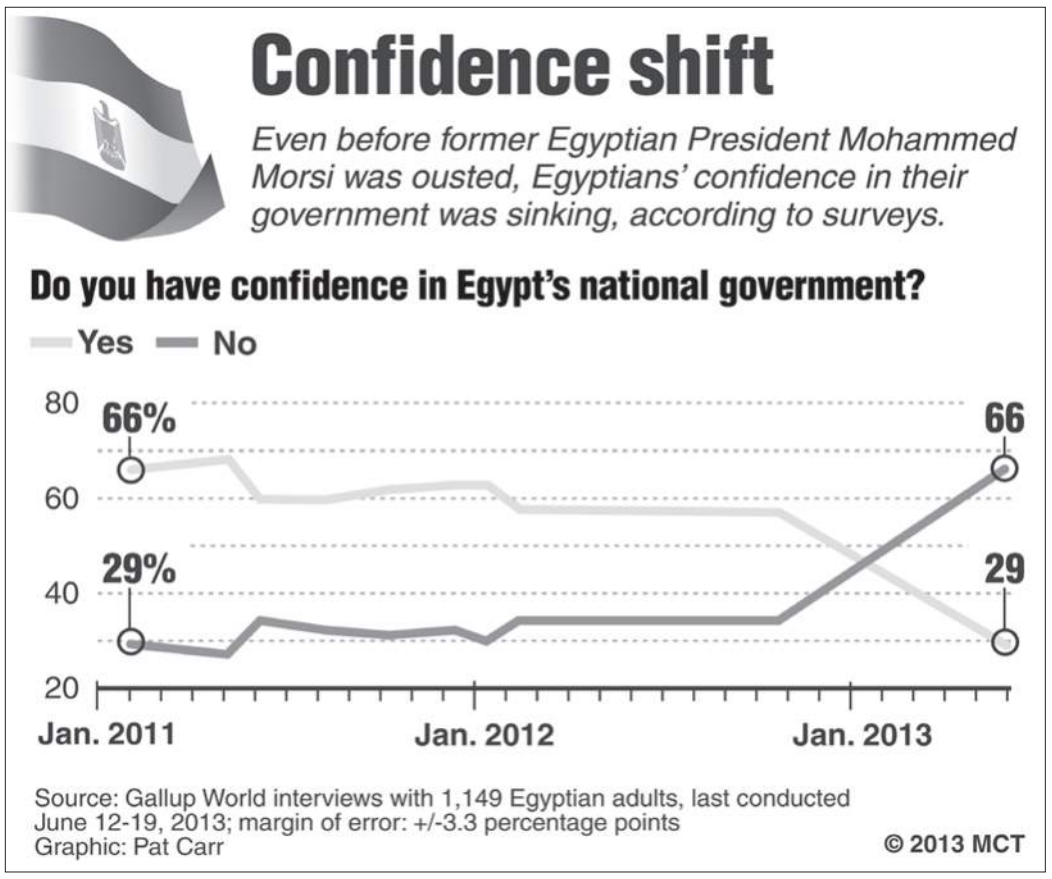
But Takahashi, the designer, said sending a robot into space could help write a new chapter in the history of communication.

"I wish for this robot to function as a mediator between person and machine, or person and Internet and sometimes even between people," he said.

JAXA, Japan's equivalent of NASA, said the rocket launch was successful, and the separation of a cargo vehicle, carrying the robot to the space station, was confirmed about 15 minutes after liftoff.

World

Al-Qaida chief: Egypt coup shows democracy corrupt



CAIRO (AP)—Al-Qaida's leader said the military coup that ousted Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi provides proof that Islamic rule cannot be established through democracy and urged the Islamist leader's followers to abandon the ballot box in favor of armed resistance.

In a 15-minute audio message posted online late Friday, Ayman al-Zawahri also lashed out at the Egyptian military, the country's secular and liberal elites as well as the Coptic Christian minority, accusing them of conspiring against Morsi solely because he was an Islamist.

Egypt's army ousted Morsi, the country's first democratically elected leader, on July 3 after days of mass protests demanding the president's removal. The coup has divided the nation into rival camps, with an array of liberal and secular Egyptians supporting the military's move and Morsi's supporters and Islamist allies rejecting it.

"We have to admit first that legitimacy does not mean elections and democracy, but legitimacy is the Shariah (Islamic law)... which is above all the constitutions and laws," al-Zawahri said in comments addressed to Morsi's supporters.

He condemned the Brotherhood for having "tried its best to satisfy America and the secularists" by relinquishing "jihad," usually invoked by al-Qaida to mean armed struggle. He also noted that Morsi's government was overthrown despite its acceptance of Egypt's landmark peace treaty with Israel and security agreements with the United States—both of which Islamic militants sharply oppose.

"You forgot that democracy is the West's monopoly and it is allowed for those who belong to the Islamists to benefit from its fruits only on one condition—you be a slave for the West's ideology, action, policy and economy," he said.

Al-Qaida and other Islamic extremists roundly reject democracy as a Western-imposed system, and oppose it on the grounds that it puts man's laws above those of God.

Turning to Egypt's military, al-Zawahri, who is Egyptian and grew up in a Cairo suburb, accused the army of being a pawn of U.S. interests.

"The Americanized army, was raised by America's aid, training courses and exercises and their allegiance was bought to fulfill the Americans' orders and protect U.S. interests as well as maintain the security of its foster child, Israel," he said.

He said Egypt's secular camp forgot democracy, elections and the peaceful transfer of power and resorted instead to the "Americanized military to overthrow the Egyptian constitution."

The message's authenticity could not be independently confirmed but was posted on a militant website commonly used by al-Qaida. It was produced by the group's arm, As Sahab.

Study: Hotter temperatures lead to hotter tempers

WASHINGTON (AP)—As the world gets warmer, people's tempers are likely to get hotter, scientists say.

A massive new study finds that aggressive acts like committing violent crimes and waging war become more likely with each added degree.

Researchers analyzed 60 studies on historic empire collapses, recent wars, violent crime rates in the United States and lab simulations that tested police decisions on when to shoot. They found something in common over centuries: Extreme weather—very hot or dry—means more violence.

"When the weather gets bad, we tend to be more willing to hurt other people," said economist Solomon Hsiang of the University of California, Berkeley.

He is the lead author of the study, published online Thursday by the journal Science.

The team of economists even came up with a formula that predicts how much the risk of different types of violence should increase with extreme weather. In war-torn parts of equatorial Africa, it says, every added degree Fahrenheit or so increases the chance of conflict between groups by 11 percent to 14 percent.

For the United States, the formula says that for every increase of 5.4 degrees Fahrenheit (3 Celsius), the likelihood of violent crime goes up 2 percent to 4 percent.

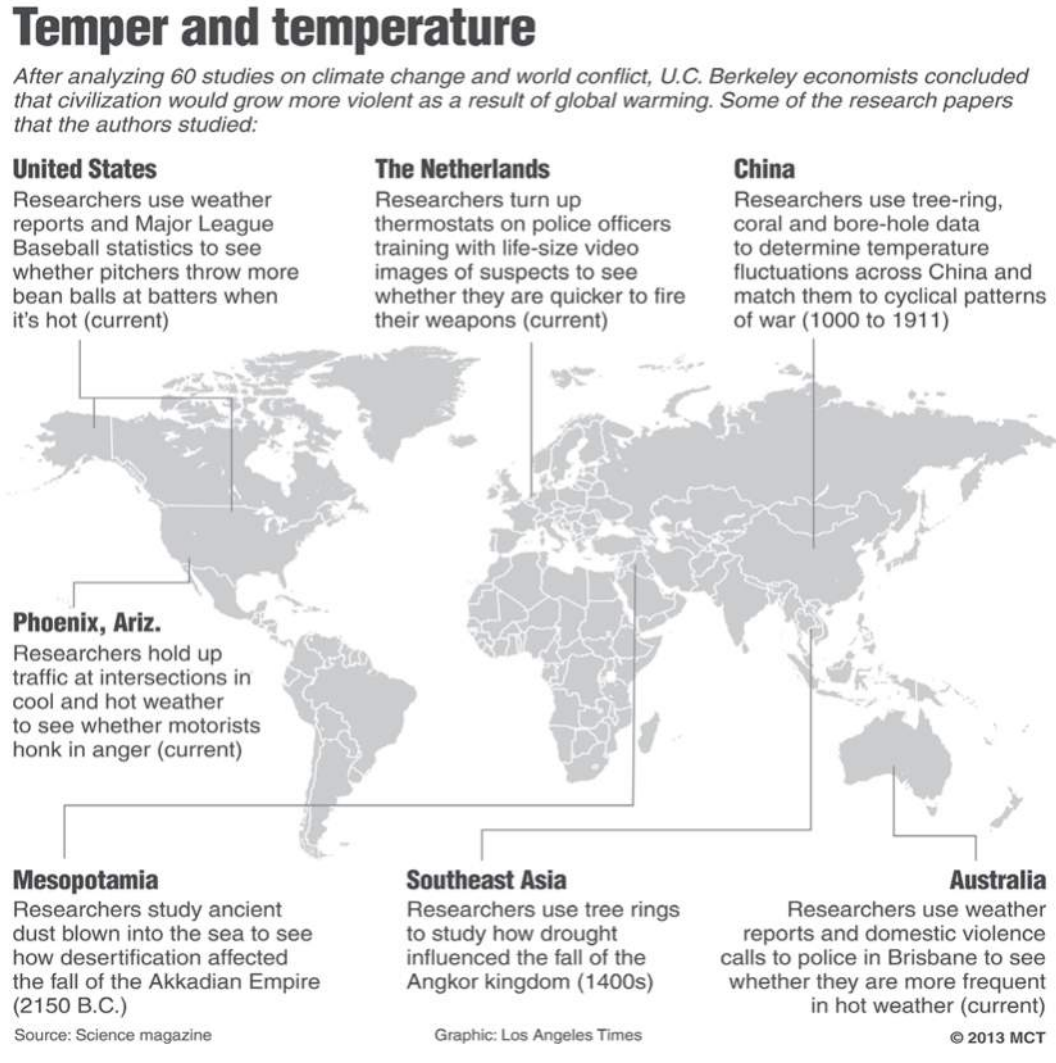
Temperatures in much of North America and Eurasia are likely to go up by that amount by about 2065 because of increases in carbon dioxide pollution, according to a separate paper published in Science on Thursday.

When the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change updates its report next year on the impacts of global warming, it will address the issue of impacts on war for the first time, said Carnegie Institution scientist Chris Field, who heads that worldwide study group.

Hsiang said that whenever the analyzed studies looked at temperature and conflict, the link was clear, no matter where or when.

In one study, police officers in a psychology experiment were more likely to choose to shoot someone in a lab simulation when the room temperature was hotter, Hsiang said. He also pointed to the collapse of the Mayan civilization that coincided with periods of historic drought about 1,200 years ago.

There is a good reason why people get more aggressive in warmer weather, said Ohio State University psychology professor Brad Bushman. His work was analyzed by Hsiang. Although people say they feel sluggish when they are hot, their heart rate and other physical responses are aroused and elevated. They think they are not agitated, when in fact they are, and "that's a recipe for disaster," Bushman said.


Temper and temperature
After analyzing 60 studies on climate change and world conflict, U.C. Berkeley economists concluded that civilization would grow more violent as a result of global warming. Some of the research papers that the authors studied:
United States
Researchers use weather reports and Major League Baseball statistics to see whether pitchers throw more bean balls at batters when it's hot (current)
The Netherlands
Researchers turn up thermostats on police officers training with life-size video images of suspects to see whether they are quicker to fire their weapons (current)
China
Researchers use tree-ring, coral and bore-hole data to determine temperature fluctuations across China and match them to cyclical patterns of war (1000 to 1911)
Phoenix, Ariz.
Researchers hold up traffic at intersections in cool and hot weather to see whether motorists honk in anger (current)
Mesopotamia
Researchers study ancient dust blown into the sea to see how desertification affected the fall of the Akkadian Empire (2150 B.C.)
Southeast Asia
Researchers use tree rings to study how drought influenced the fall of the Angkor kingdom (1400s)
Australia
Researchers use weather reports and domestic violence calls to police in Brisbane to see whether they are more frequent in hot weather (current)
Source: Science magazine
Graphic: Los Angeles Times
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Negotiator: Mid-August release of 26 Palestinians

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—Israel will free next week the first of four groups of long-held Palestinian prisoners slated for release as part of a deal to restart peace talks, the chief Palestinian negotiator said Sunday.

Israel agreed in principle to release 104 veteran prisoners in a U.S.-brokered agreement that cleared the way toward resuming peace talks with the Palestinians after a five-year freeze.

Negotiations began in Washington last week, and are to continue in Jerusalem next week.

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat said in a statement that 26 prisoners will be freed Aug. 13.

Israel's chief negotiator, Tzipi Livni, told Israeli television Saturday that the first group of Palestinian prisoners will be released sometime before negotiations resume next week. Livni did not specify the number of prisoners Israel would release.

An Israeli government spokesman declined comment.

The U.S. wants a deal on the terms of a Palestinian state within nine months. The Palestinians fear Israel will seek only an interim agreement. Erekat said in his statement that such a partial deal is unacceptable.

Zimbabwe: Mugabe declared winner in disputed vote

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)—Zimbabwe's electoral panel on Saturday declared that longtime President Robert Mugabe had won re-election by a landslide, a result that could exacerbate tensions in the country, where the 89-year-old's chief rival and former coalition partner has accused him of poll-rigging.

Mugabe seemed set to strengthen his hold over Zimbabwe after the state Election Commission said his party won 158 of the 210 parliament seats. That gives it a two-thirds majority in the legislature—enabling it to amend a recently approved constitution that provides for democratic reforms.

Challenger Morgan Tsvangirai's party, which had gambled that a high turnout in its favor would overcome any alleged fraud in the vote, captured 50 seats and two went to independent candidates.

According to the results, Mugabe won 61 percent of the vote, compared to 33 percent for Tsvangirai, who had been prime minister in a tense power-sharing deal with the president. Officially, Mugabe, who has been in power for 33 years, gets another five-year term in office.

Tsvangirai rejected the results as fraudulent and called for fresh elections. He urged a peaceful response to the alleged massive rigging by Mugabe's ZANU-PF party, which has the muscle of the security forces to deter any groundswell of street protests.

In contrast to an election marked by deadly attacks in 2008, the vote on Wednesday was mostly peaceful and African poll monitors, while expressing some concern about reported irregularities, seemed mostly relieved that it was not violent.

Britain and the United States were more forceful in their criticism of the voting process, though Mugabe has based his career in part on sparring with Western powers and there is little chance their disapproval will sway him.

That leaves the Zimbabwean opposition with few options for countering Mugabe, who presides over a country that still has economic problems but enjoys some measure of stability compared to a period of soaring inflation years ago.

Focus

In this photo taken May 8, 2013, groups of passengers wait at a United Airlines gate to board a flight in separate numbered lanes. AP

The airlines' endless quest for better boarding

DALLAS (AP)—Getting people on and off an airplane quickly is so complicated that even an astrophysicist couldn't figure it out.

Jason Steffen, a research fellow at Northwestern University, normally contemplates things such as axion-like particles. But after waiting in one boarding line too many, he turned to the mysteries of airline seating.

"I thought there had to be a better way," he says.

So, after a series of calculations, he deduced that the best system would be a combination of filling all the window seats first, then all the middle ones and then the aisle ones, while also having the passengers board every other row.

There was just one problem—passengers would have to board in precise order. Good luck with that. These are the same passengers who don't turn off their phones even after they're told it's a federal law.

"Well," Steffen observes, "I understand why airline people aren't calling me."

But the search for the perfect boarding process goes on.

Most airlines allow first-class and other elite customers to board first. After that, some fill the rear rows first and work toward the front.

Others fill window seats and work in toward the aisle. Some used to employ a hybrid called the reverse-pyramid. Southwest Airlines has random seating: There are no assigned seats—passengers sort things out themselves. They can pay extra to be near the front of the boarding line.

All of this matters more than you might think.

Passengers want to board early to find space in the overhead bins for their rolling carry-on bags. For airlines, every minute that a plane sits at the gate makes it more likely that the flight will be late, hurting the carrier's on-time rating and causing passengers to miss connecting flights.

There's an economic cost to running late, too. Researchers from Northern Illinois University say that at one major airline, which they didn't identify, every extra minute at the gate added $30 in costs.

American Airlines, which uses a back-to-front system for boarding coach passengers after it takes care of elite customers, says that it takes about 25 minutes to board passengers on a smaller, narrow-body plane such as a Boeing 737 and about 35 minutes on a bigger plane such as a Boeing 777.

In recent weeks, United and American—the nation's biggest and third-biggest carriers—have rolled out new strategies for faster boarding.

¾ American is letting passengers board sooner if they don't put anything in the overhead bins. The idea is to get more people seated quickly before passengers with rolling bags clog the aisle.

¾ United reduced the number of boarding groups from seven to five while adding lanes in gate areas—from two to five at big airports. That's designed to eliminate "gate lice"—the name road warriors use for those anxious passengers with big carry-ons who cause a traffic jam by creeping forward long before their group is called.

American and United tested their new procedures in a handful of airports before rolling them out across the country in time for the peak summer travel season. United CEO Jeff Smisek says his airline's new method has helped cut departure delays related to boarding by more than 60 percent.

Boarding methods go back to the dawn of commercial flight, but they've gotten more complicated as the airlines have created different classes of passengers and sold the right to board early.

Since 2008, most large airlines have imposed fees for checking a bag, which encourages passengers to carry more on board. At the same time, airlines have reduced flights to control costs, making planes more crowded. The result: Space in the overhead bins has never been more valuable.

Recognizing the potential value in that coveted real estate, Spirit Airlines began charging for stowing a bag in the overhead three years ago—the fee now runs up to $100.

Spirit says the fee speeds up boarding by cutting down the number of carry-on bags. The big airlines haven't copied Spirit for fear of angering customers. They've looked for other ways to improve boarding.

In May, American began offering early boarding to passengers with just a personal item that fits under the seat. In a test at several airports, it cut boarding by two minutes per flight, according to Kevin Doeksen, the airline's director of customer planning. With about 1,900 flights per day on American, that adds up.

What's to stop a passenger from moving up in line by promising to put a personal item under the seat, then stuffing it in the overhead bin anyway?

"It would be a lie to say that never happens," says Tessa Letren, an American gate agent at Baltimore-Washington International Airport. "We can't always police that."

Still, Letren supports the new policy, which she says cuts the amount of time that planes spend on the ground between flights.

Before the 2010 merger of United and Continental airlines, United used the inside-out method of boarding—window seats first, then middle, then aisle—while Continental used the back-to-front method, loading passengers a few rows at a time starting at the rear of the plane. After much testing, the combined airline kept the United approach. Earlier this year, United set up additional boarding lines in the terminals to attack congestion in the gate area.

The back-to-front system, still used by many airlines, seems logical. But some studies have shown that it's slower than windows-middle-aisle.

"If you're on the aisle and somebody sitting next to you in the middle seat shows up, you need to unbuckle and maybe get up," says Ken Bostock, United's managing director of customer experience. "That can take 20, 25 seconds, and that happens a lot during the boarding process."

Lou Agudo, a United gate agent who worked at Continental before the merger, says boarding by groups of rows practically invited confusion. Just when he thought everyone in Group 2—the rear of the plane—had gone through, and he called Group 3 to start, "Twenty people would walk up and say they didn't hear the announcement." Some had missed the call for their group, while others decided to get in line no matter what, he says. The extra lanes have made his job easier.

Anything to tidy up the gate area will help, in the view of Yosief Ghirmai, an auditor for defense contractor Raytheon Co. in Frisco, Texas, who says foreign airlines make boarding much easier for elite-level frequent fliers like himself.

"The international airlines respect the priority boarding system," Ghirmai says, citing Hong Kong's Cathay Pacific as an example. "Here, you have to fight to get to the priority boarding line—all the bags, all the kids. The concept (in the U.S.) is the same, but the execution is much better over there."

Selita Garcia of Chicago wondered why anybody in the front of the plane would want to board first.

"We're always bumping into all those business-class people—if it's not my purse, then I'm hitting them with my bag," says Garcia, who manages a doctor's office and was taking her grandson to vacation in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, recently. "Why let them on first? The plane is not taking off until everybody is on the plane."

Health & Fitness

Cause of stomach illness difficult to detect

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donna Heller thought she had cancer. But multiple visits to the doctor after a month with debilitating nausea and diarrhea didn't yield any answers. Convinced she was dying, she met with her lawyer to get her will in order.

Then she saw a television report about an outbreak of cyclospora possibly linked to bagged salad mix. The stomach illness matched all her symptoms and is easily treatable with antibiotics. She told her doctor she suspected that could be the cause, and tests showed she was right.

"It went so long and nobody was able to give me answers," said Heller, a 54-year-old teacher in Crowley, Texas. "It didn't seem like anybody wanted to take you serious because there are so many stomach problems that resemble each other."

A mysterious outbreak of the parasitic illness usually found abroad is growing, with more than 400 confirmed cases in 16 states. FDA officials said Friday they had discovered the source of some of the illnesses, but not all of them. The agency said that the illnesses from Iowa and Nebraska are linked to salad mix from a Mexican farm that was served at Olive Garden and Red Lobster restaurants. Those make up around half of the cases.

The rest of the illnesses—many of them in Texas—are still a mystery, state and federal officials say.

The source of this outbreak has proved particularly hard to trace. Doctors have to test specifically for cyclospora and many don't because it is relatively rare. So they may not order the correct tests, at least not at first. The parasite is so tiny that it's often difficult to confirm that a person has the illness, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Tests often have to be repeated with fresh samples.

Heller said initial tests from her doctor showed up as inconclusive, but she later received a call from the CDC telling her she definitely had the illness.

Doctors or labs may not notify state health departments as quickly as they would for a more common foodborne illness like salmonella. And there are different rules in different states about whether cyclospora has to be reported to federal health authorities.

All those obstacles are making it harder for state and federal officials. It also means there are probably many people who have the disease and don't know it.

The illness is rare—roughly 150 cases are reported in the United States annually. Scientists only identified it in the early 1990s.

In comparison, there are tens of thousands of lab-confirmed cases of salmonella food poisoning in this country each year, and officials believe there are hundreds of thousands more that are not confirmed.

The cyclospora parasite is native to the tropics and tends to come into the United States on imported produce. For example, Guatemalan raspberries were the source of five outbreaks in Canada and the United States in the late 1990s. Two of those outbreaks involved more than 1,000 illnesses each, said Ynes Ortega, a cyclospora expert at the University of Georgia.

FDA defining what 'gluten-free' means on packages

WASHINGTON (AP)—A label that reads "gluten-free" will now mean the same thing for all food, regardless of which kind you buy.

After more than a six-year delay, the Food and Drug Administration has set a new standard for labels that will make shopping easier for consumers on gluten-restricted diets. Until now, the term "gluten-free" had not been regulated, and manufacturers made their own decisions about what it means.

Under an FDA rule announced Friday, products labeled "gluten-free" still won't have to be technically free of wheat, rye and barley and their derivatives. But they will have to contain less than 20 parts per million of gluten.

That amount is generally recognized by the medical community to be low enough so that most people who have celiac disease won't get sick if they eat it.

People who suffer from celiac disease don't absorb nutrients well and can get sick from the gluten found in wheat and other cereal grains. Other countries already have similar standards.

Celiac disease affects up to 3 million Americans. It causes abdominal pain, bloating and diarrhea, and people who have it can suffer weight loss, fatigue, rashes and other long-term medical problems. Celiac is a diagnosed illness that is more severe than gluten sensitivity, which some people self-diagnose.

Only a very small number of people wouldn't be able to ingest the amount of gluten that will be allowed under the new rule, FDA officials said.

"Adherence to a gluten-free diet is the key to treating celiac disease, which can be very disruptive to everyday life," FDA Commissioner Margaret A. Hamburg said. "The FDA's new `gluten-free' definition will help people with this condition make food choices with confidence and allow them to better manage their health."

The new FDA rule also would ensure that foods with the labels "no gluten," ``free of gluten," and "without gluten" meet the definition. Manufacturers will have a year to comply, though the FDA urged companies to meet the definition sooner.

In Celebration of Her New Life

†Agueda Cruz Pangelinan Sablan

Lovingly known as "Tan Aguedan Ignacio"

February 05, 1930 – July 29, 2013

In Her New Life, She Now Joins Her:

Husband: †Ignacio Dionisio Dela Torre Sablan (Ignacion Manila)

Parents: †Luis Mendiola Pangelinan
†Antonia Borja Cruz Pangelinan

Parents-in-law: †Francisco Palacios Sablan
†Maria Dela Torre Sablan

Brothers, Sisters, In-Laws:
†**Jose C**. Pangelinan, †**Vicente C**. Pangelinan, †**Cornelio C**. Pangelinan, **Jesus C**. & †Dolores P. Pangelinan, †**Ramon C**. & †Tomasa L. Pangelinan, †**Cecilia C**. Pangelinan, †**Maria P**. & †Joaquin Delacruz, †**Juan C**. & †Consolacion C. Pangelinan, †**Rosa C**. Pangelinan, †**Ana P**. & †Juan S. Blas, †**Jose C**. Pangelinan, †**Carmen P**. & Jose C. Agulto, †Pedro Dela Torre Sablan.

Son-in-law: †Jesus R. Tenorio

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her:
Children: **Frank P.** Sablan (Maria April Luv, Frances Monique, Marie Antonette, Christopher Vincent)
Luis P. Sablan (Ignacio Dionisio, Raymond Vincent, Kelsi Tiana)
Vicente P. and Sheila B. Sablan
Gregorio P. Sablan

Reared Children:
Josephine P. Tenorio (Edwin Arnold & Honora Tenorio & children) & (Lucille P. Tenorio & Children)
Antonia A. and Vicente C. Aldan (Frances/Eliceo Valdez & children) (Celina/Roy Reyes & children) (Vincent Keith Aldan & children) (Joseph/Patricia Aldan & children) (Carla/Norman Redor & children) (Darlene Dione Aldan/Michael DLGuerrero & daughter)

Ignacio Jr. P. and Isabel R. Kiyoshi & children
Lina Mae M. Delacruz

Brothers, Sisters In-Laws: Leonardo & Eula Sablan, Lourdes & Luis H., Elena Q. Sablan

Daily Mass of Intention is celebrated each evening at 06:00 p.m. at Santa Soledad Church followed by Holy Rosary. On Sunday, August 4th, Holy Rosary will be prayed at 08:30 am followed by Sunday mass at 09:30 am.

Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, August 06, 2013. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 07:30 a.m. to Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso services will be at 08:00 a.m. followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. followed by Interment Services at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where she will be at a peaceful rest.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYERS
Children & Family

Personal Trainer
9,992, 9,993, 9,994 ...
Simple goal:
10,000 steps a day
The goal of walking 10,000 steps a day is an easier, more effective fitness program for sedentary people than counting minutes walked.
In a new study
Women asked to take 10,000 steps a day exercised more than those given the goal of walking 30 minutes on "most days of the week"
Easy to measure
1 Obtain an inexpensive pedometer; no need to calibrate it for your step length
2 Wear it all day; ignore its readings on calories and distance
What the numbers mean For people with sedentary jobs
2,000 steps
Very little walking; day spent mostly sitting, driving
4,000 steps
Short walks, stair climbing; perhaps an extended walk
7,000 steps
Several extended walks, many short walks
10,000 steps
30 minutes or more of steady walking, frequent short walks
© 2013 MCT
Source: Medscape Medical News
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas and Paul Trap

Life & Style

ROBIN! MILEY! BRUNO!
Who has the song of summer?

In this May 19, 2013 file photo, Bruno Mars performs at the Billboard Music Awards in Las Vegas. Mars' "Treasure," is one of the top songs of the summer.

NEW YORK (AP)—You're listening to it on the way to the beach, or when your toes are resting in the sand. Or you're on a crowded train without a seat, sweating as funky smells scorch from the left or right. Luckily, you're jamming to funky summertime beats, you're doing OK.

Or maybe it's when you're walking your dog or you're on a road trip with friends or family. Songs of the summer not only get you through the day, they also get you through the months before winter's cold kills your fun vibes.

We asked Robin Thicke and Icona Pop why their multiplatinum hits should be named "song of the summer." And for Miley Cyrus, Daft Punk and Bruno Mars, who weren't available to chat, we pulled lyrics from their anthems to defend their honor.

YOU KNOW YOU WANT IT
"Blurred Lines," Robin Thicke, featuring T.I. and Pharrell

"It has a (nice) tempo, it has a sense of humor and it feels like live music instead of that synth and digital sound, which Daft Punk has (with 'Get Lucky') and (Bruno Mars') 'Treasure' has," Thicke said of his infectious, naughty jam, the longest-running song on the Billboard Hot 100 chart this year at eight weeks (and counting). "It makes you laugh, it's soulful and it's got an organic sound to it."

CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP
"We Can't Stop," Miley Cyrus

"It's our party we can do what we want to, it's our house we can love who we want to, it's our song we can sing if we want to, it's my mouth I can say what I want to," Cyrus sings on her musical coming-out anthem that was originally meant for Rihanna.

She's ready for the spotlight.

CALL IT LUCK
"Get Lucky," Daft Punk, featuring Pharrell

"We've come too far to give up who we are, so let's raise the bar and our cups to the stars," Pharrell sings on a disco-flavored beat that heals the soul. "The present has no ribbon, your gift keeps on giving, what is this I'm feeling, if you wanna leave I'm with it."

Sounds like a plan!

A 2012 SONG DOMINATES IN 2013
"I Love It," Icona Pop, featuring Charli XCX

"People get wild when they hear it and it's like liberating and everybody can sing along to it. It's a party song or it's at least a song you can party to even though the message is coming out from a really hard heartbreak," said Caroline Hjelt of the Swedish duo. "If you're in the car on your way to something or festivals or pre-parties or out at the club, it works in so many ways."

GOLDEN HIT FROM POP'S GOLDEN BOY
"Treasure," Bruno Mars

"Pretty girl, pretty girl, pretty girl, you should be smiling, a girl like you should never look so blue," Mars sings in a matter-of-fact manner over a welcoming beat on his 11th top 10 hit. "You're everything I see in my dreams, I wouldn't say that to you if it wasn't true."

How sweet.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Francisco Aguon Reyes

aka "Ankie Onio"
Now joins in his wife †Regina DLG Reyes
&
Survived by his wife Rita Indalecio Reyes
Born January 14, 1944
Called to Eternal Rest on July 29, 2013

In His New Life, He Now Joins His:
Parents: *†Jose M. Reyes & †Rosa A. Reyes*
Son: *†Wilbur DLG Reyes*
Grandsons: *†Vincent Reyes DLG & †Connor Franklin Reyes*
Sister: *†Ladonna Reyes Dement*

His Loving Memories Will Forever live in the Hearts of His:
Children, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren:
Maecy R. DLG *(Fred): Tiara Lucia (Kaya Lucia), Regina*
Shirley R. Dela Cruz *(Eloy): Hannah Mae (Benny & Coby), Eloy Jr., Carina Lynn (Shianne)*
Paul DLG Reyes *(Thelma): Jobe, Jonah, Jode, Joven, JJ, Jared*
Jolyn R. Pangelinan *(Ian): Zoe, Ian Jayden*
Yvonne DLG Reyes*: Jordan, Tyler*
Step Daughters & Sons and Grandchildren:
Annie *& Richard Benavente and Children*
Madeline *& Billy Padrones and Children*
Albert I. Tudela *and Children*
Frances T. *& John Danielli and Children*
Franklin I. Tudela *and Children*
Emily I. Tudela *and Children*
Jesse I. Tudela *and Children*
Anthony *& Kimberly Tudela and Children*

Nightly Mass is being prayed at San Antonio Church at 6:00 p.m.. Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday August 6th 2013. The body of the late Francisco will depart from the Commonwealth Health Center at 7:30 a.m. and will be escorted to San Antonio Church for viewing followed by Mass of Intention at 10:00 a.m.. Christian Burial Service for the late Francisco will be at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Please join us in Prayers.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase
The Family

'Conjuring' director James Wan gears up for 'Fast'

BURBANK, Calif. (AP)—James Wan walked away from his first chance to make a sequel, for the "Saw" franchise he helped create. Now he can't seem to escape them.

The director has been splitting his days this summer between pre-production on the seventh "Fast & Furious" film and putting the finishing touches on his indie scare-fest "Insidious 2," due in September.

His other haunted house movie, "The Conjuring," has become the season's biggest low-budget hit. It's heading toward $100 million at the U.S. box office since its release last month, more than the mega-budget "Pacific Rim" and "The Lone Ranger."

No surprise here: The tale of a New England demonic possession leaves a creaky door flung wide open for more movies starring ghost hunters Ed and Lorraine Warren, played by Patrick Wilson and Vera Farmiga.

"If there's a need for more stories, then so be it. That's a good thing," Wan said in an interview. "But I always set out to make the best film I can and let the people decide if it has a longer shelf life or not."

Born in Malaysia and raised in Australia, the 36-year-old director found his niche in Hollywood taking "genre" movies and bending them slightly askew. His "Insidious" sequel, for example, includes time travel.

Wan

"You don't see that much in mainstream haunted house scary movies," Wan said. "That's the kind of stuff that I've always loved, which is to take things that you think you're familiar with, and give it something a bit different."

After Wan's twisted "Saw" became a huge hit in 2004, the saga of serial killer Jigsaw and his victims became an annual Halloween tradition for many horror fans, with six sequels released in theaters. Wan says he became known, to his dismay, as "the serial killer guy."

"For some reason people felt that the success of the first film was just about the traps and the blood and gore and the torture. I would be the first to argue against that," he said. "It had cool characters, it had a really well thought out storyline, and at the end of the movie, it had a really big, super cool twist. . But at the end of the first movie when I slammed the door to black, that was my way of saying 'Tah dah! Finished!' At least for me."

His career's latest twist is landing the sought-after gig with the "Fast & Furious" action franchise, beating out a dozen other directors with an enthusiastic pitch for a more grounded and gritty approach.

"Because the title says 'Fast 7,' and the characters that are in the movies like Vin Diesel and Paul Walker and the gang, they felt like outlaws or like samurai in some ways. So I started thinking seven—'Seven Samurai,'" he said, referring to Akira Kurosawa's 1954 classic. "So that's kind of the spirit that I'm trying to bring to my version."

In person, Wan is visibly excited by the prospect of taking on the car-crazy franchise, his biggest budgeted film yet and second action movie after 2007's "Death Sentence," starring Kevin Bacon in vigilante mode.

"I love the action genre but I've just been so successful in the horror genre that I've never had the opportunity to go into action in a big way," Wan said. He smiles at the prospect of introducing British action star Jason Statham as a villain, teased in a mid-credits sequence in the sixth movie.

"I think everyone in the film is so cool as it is, but there's something kind of mythical about bringing Jason into this ... that adds an extra layer of funness to it," Wan said.

Universal Pictures co-president of production Jeffrey Kirschenbaum said executives at other studios called to congratulate the studio for picking Wan.

And when "The Conjuring," made for $20 million and released by Warner Bros, topped the box office its opening weekend over much more expensive competition, "we weren't surprised," Kirschenbaum said.

"It's something that has happened time and again with James' movies. They've broken through the white noise," he said. "James understands how to craft accessible and identifiable characters. He puts them in extreme situations where he is subverting audience expectations."

"Fast 7" hasn't yet started shooting but is already slated for release next July, with the script being tweaked as Wan and others scout locations and plan the franchise's trademark elaborate set pieces. And there may be even more "Fast" in the future for Wan.

Justin Lin directed the last three "Fast" movies and though Wan has only been confirmed for one, "we talk about these in terms of long-term story arcs. Seven leads to 8 which leads to 9," Kirschenbaum said.

Cowell says 'X Factor' female judges reflect music

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—The mostly female judges' panel for "The X Factor" reflects the "girls' world" of today's music business, Simon Cowell said Thursday.

When "X Factor" returns next month for its third season, Cowell will share judging duties on his show with returning panelist Demi Lovato, along with two newcomers: former Destiny's Child singer Kelly Rowland and Latin artist Paulina Rubio.

The music charts are dominated by women, Cowell said during a Television Critics Association session.

He compared last season's judging panel, with record producer Antonio "L.A." Reid and Britney Spears, to a dinner party that wasn't as fun as expected.

The revamped panel represents Cowell's third try to make "X Factor" into the major hit he predicted it would be before its 2011 debut. The show, based on his British hit, has gotten respectable but not stellar ratings.

"You have to be competitive. You have to make changes," Cowell said.

Mario Lopez, returning as the show's host, said the women on the panel have an obvious chemistry that he predicted will resonate with viewers.

Rubio agreed that the three of them "bonded immediately."

Rowland, who was a contestant on "Star Search," was asked how she's approaching judging.

"Definitely constructive when it comes to criticism because you know what 'no' feels like," she said.

Rubio, noting that she started with a recording deal as a youngster, said she had a perspective that she wants to share with young singers.

Lovato, 20, who proved that she could hold her own on the show with the caustic Cowell, said her age gave her "a naive sense of confidence" that prevented her from being intimidated. She suggested he's going to meet his match with the new panel.

"The banter between me and Simon will be times three," she said.

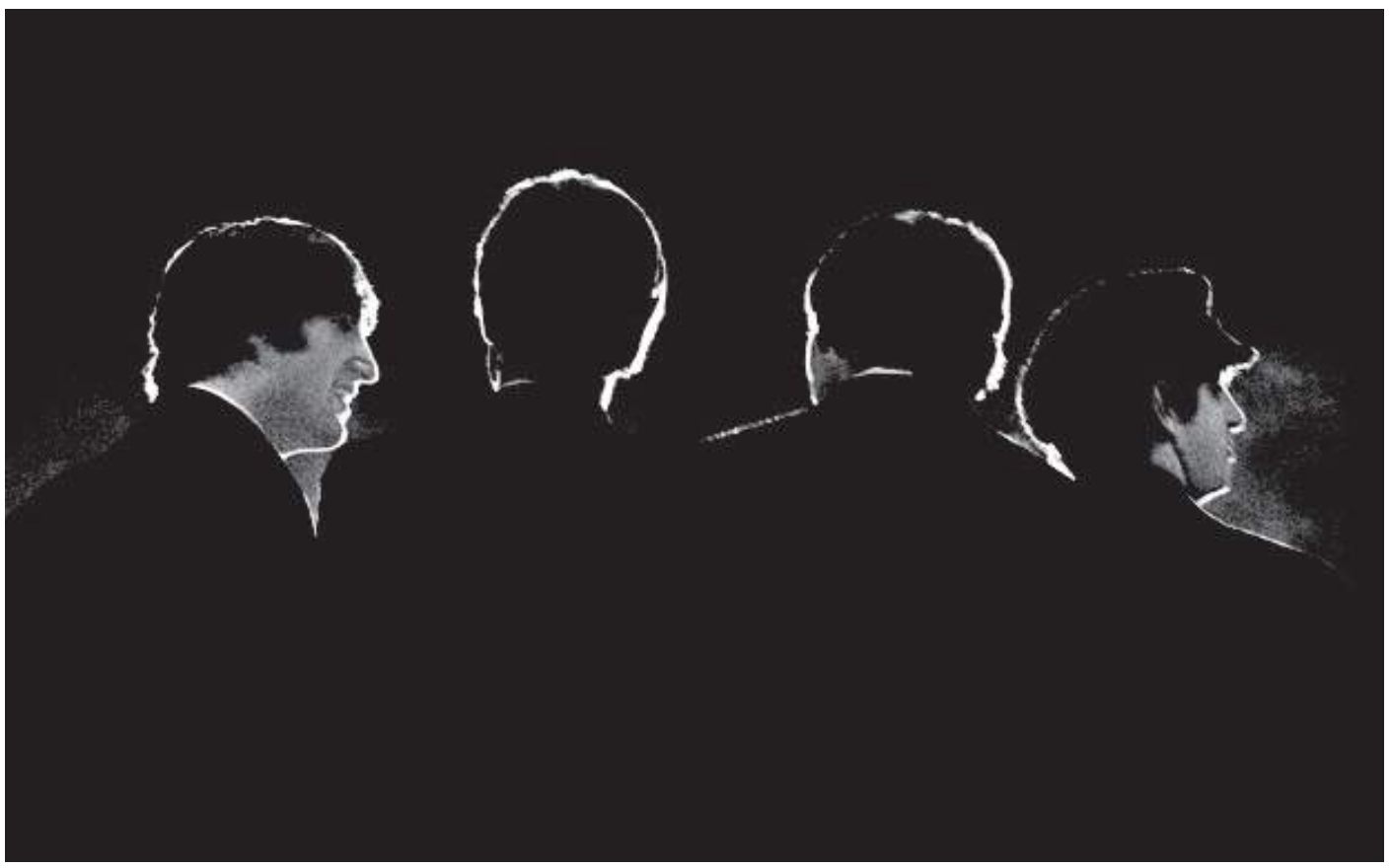
Amid reports that Cowell and a married New York socialite are expecting a baby, he was asked if his schedule would be affected by being a father.

"I really haven't read the newspapers. Did I miss anything?" Cowell replied. "Unfortunately, I have to keep this, for the moment, private. It's just one of those things. Thank you very much anyway."

The pregnancy hasn't been confirmed by either party.

At one point, Lovato interjected that Cowell didn't have to respond to the reporter's question.

US exhibit shines light on rare Beatles photos


This Feb. 11, 1964 image provided by the David Anthony Fine Art gallery in Taos, N.M., shows a photograph of the Beatles taken by photographer Mike Mitchell during a news conference before the band's first live U.S. concert at the Washington Coliseum.

TAOS, New Mexico (AP)—Snow and frigid temperatures didn't stop thousands of screaming teenagers from crowding into the Washington Coliseum in the nation's capital for the Beatles first live concert on American soil.

And not having a flash didn't stop photographer Mike Mitchell, then just 18 years old, from using his unrestricted access to document that historic February night in 1964 using only the dim light in the arena.

Ghostly shadows and streams of light filled some negatives. With the help of modern technology and close to 1,000 hours in front of the computer screen, Mitchell was able to peel back decades of grunge and transform those old negatives into a rare, artful look at one of pop culture's defining moments.

Mitchell's portraits of the Beatles are the centerpiece of a monthlong exhibition at the David Anthony Fine Art gallery in Taos—the first time the prints have been exhibited since being unveiled in 2011 at a Christie's auction in New York City. The gallery started hanging the first of the framed prints a week ago in preparation for Friday's opening.

"Just amazing," gallery owner David Mapes said as he looked around the room at the large black and white prints and wondered aloud what it must have been like to be in Mitchell's shoes that night.

Mapes pointed to a photograph of the four band members, their backs to the camera with a thin ribbon of light outlining their silhouettes. When he first saw it, he said he teared up. He knew he had to find a way to share it with others.

"It brought back memories of that time. I was a teenager and it was so much about love and everything was optimistic feeling," he said.

It didn't take long from the time the Beatles released their debut album in 1963 to go from a little British bar band to an international sensation. The Beatles' reach eventually stretched beyond music and haircuts to religion and politics.

"The Beatles came to represent some of the yearnings for peace and hope and equality and a larger social justice. In the United States and throughout the world, their personalities became as important as the music," said Norman Markowitz, a history professor at Rutgers University.

For Paul Vance, who teaches a class on the Beatles at Winona State University in Minnesota, the band was the reason he pursued music. He was 11 years old when the Beatles first came to the U.S.

The Beatles had good timing, he said, having arrived at a time when America was still heartbroken over the assassination of then-President John F. Kennedy and young people were looking for meaning in their lives.

"Much has been said and written about it," Vance said of the Beatles' influence. "It's a very significant point that the world after the Beatles was a radically different place than the world before the Beatles, and they did influence and change so many aspects of not just American life, but life everywhere."

Mitchell can't predict what role his photographs will play as historians and music fans continue to examine the evolution of American pop culture. Still, those moments captured by his camera that February night tell a grainy story of four young men who seemed to be having the time of their lives.

Mitchell remembers how hot it was inside the coliseum. The crowd was deafening but the resonating bass beats were unmistakable. He said the Beatles were "on fire" that night.

"They were really juiced. It was obvious at the time that they were really, really, really into it and I think the pictures really benefit from that," he said.

Mitchell said his goal was simple. He wanted to make great portraits of the Beatles while discovering a little more about who they really were.

With no flash, he was forced to wait for the perfect time to snap that shutter. His photographs immortalized the important details of the moment in a bath of light while the rest faded into darkness. It was the concert that marked the beginning of his fascination with light.

"I think that was the first time in my life that I had to really look more deeply at light and take my queues from what the light was doing," he said. "I learned to sort of feel from the light."

Diaper duty: Prince William tells of fatherhood

LONDON (AP)—Prince William gave guests at a charity polo match an insight into his newfound paternal duties Saturday, saying his mind had been stuck in "baby mode" thanks to his feisty newborn son.

William was playing alongside his brother Harry at the Audi Polo Challenge in the English village of Ascot. The match came less than two weeks after he and his wife, Kate, had their first child, Prince George, and William told spectators it was "good to get out of the house" for the afternoon.

The 31-year-old royal managed to score the winning goal for his team and was later presented with a miniature polo stick for his baby boy. He jokingly asked if he'd be getting some nappies—the British term for diapers—instead, telling guests he had to "pick some up on my way home."

Of his performance on the pitch, William said he was "in baby mode out there, thinking about nappies. I wasn't really in the zone." When quizzed about George, he said the little prince, who was born July 22, "likes to move around a lot. He wriggles a lot. He keeps on our toes."

The polo outing was William's first public appearance since the birth of his son captured the world's attention. Kate and the baby were not in attendance.

The Duke of Cambridge, Britain's Prince William plays in the Audi Polo Challenge charity polo match, at Coworth Park, near Ascot, England, Saturday Aug. 3, 2013.

Pacino movie films in middle of concert by Chicago

LOS ANGELES (AP)—An Al Pacino movie broke out in the middle of a concert by the band Chicago, with thousands of fans serving as extras.

Cameras were wheeled onstage during intermission of the group's show at the Greek Theatre on Friday night to film a scene from Pacino's upcoming movie "Imagine," in which he plays aging rock star Danny Collins.

With coaching from the director, the crowd chanted the name of Pacino's character as the 73-year-old actor walked on stage to sing "Hey Baby Doll" in a black suit. The movie co-stars Michael Caine, Annette Bening and Jennifer Garner.

"This is an improvisation," Pacino told the crowd. "You just came in and got it. That's not easy."

Chicago's band members remained on stage to watch and clap along during the 25-minute filming. After a few takes, the crowd grew restless and there was scattered booing for the real musicians to resume playing.

Earlier in Chicago's set, Joe Mantegna of CBS' "Criminal Minds" joined his hometown band to sing "If You Leave Me Now."

Pacino returned to the stage during Chicago's encore and sang and danced to their hit "25 or 6 to 4."

"For a shy guy from the South Bronx, this has been great," Pacino said.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Billy Bob Thornton to star in TV's 'Fargo' series

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—Oscar winner Billy Bob Thornton will star in the TV version of the film "Fargo." FX network boss John Landgraf said Friday that Thornton has signed on to a limited series based on the 1996 crime comedy-drama. It's scheduled for a 10-episode run on FX next year. Thornton will play a rootless con artist. No characters will be carried over from the film, which brought a best-actress Oscar to Frances McDormand. Even so, Landgraf says the series will be "remarkably true to the film." Its creators, Joel and Ethan Coen, are associated with the series. Thornton won an Oscar for writing the 1996 drama "Sling Blade," in which he also starred. No other cast members have been announced.

Kathy Bates happy being part of FX's 'Horror'

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—Kathy Bates says she's thrilled to be a regular on FX's "American Horror Story." It's almost good enough to rid her of the bad taste from her previous stint on series TV. She told reporters at a Television Critics Association session on Friday that she has an issue with NBC, which cancelled "Harry's Law" last season after a two-year run. Things are happier on her current project, which just began shooting. The Oscar-winning Bates plays Madame LaLaurie, a real-life 19th-Century Louisiana socialite and serial killer. She co-stars with Sarah Paulson, Angela Bassett and Jessica Lange, who plays a witch. "American Horror Story: Coven" premieres in October.

Jack White denies threatening estranged wife

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)—Jack White denies making any threats against his estranged wife in a court filing in response to her request for a temporary restraining order. British singer and model Karen Elson was granted the order pending a hearing. She showed the court an email from the former White Stripes frontman that expresses unhappiness with Elson's plans for their children's schooling and criticizes rock 'n' roll rival Dan Auerbach of The Black Keys. In a court filing Friday, White denies his wife's claims and says his wife went back on a verbal agreement to settle the divorce without mediation. White has asked the court to establish a temporary parenting plan.

Taylor Swift's childhood home on market

WYOMISSING, Pennsylvania (AP)—Taylor Swift's childhood home in Pennsylvania is on the market, but fans looking to "Begin Again" in Pennsylvania may be too late. Century 21 Gold agent Lisa Tiger says the six-bedroom home in Wyomissing, near Reading, is in contract and expected to close this month. Swift's parents had rented the home for many years before moving to Nashville when the singer was 14. The Classical revival home boasts a grand staircase and a sun-filled study where Swift played guitar, according to the $799,500 listing. Swift's 2012 album, "Red," includes the song "Begin Again." The 23-year-old Swift has sold more than 75 million albums.

Ellen DeGeneres to host Oscars

NEW YORK (AP)—Ellen DeGeneres will be back for a second time to host the Academy Awards.

Producers announced her selection Friday. DeGeneres hosted the show in 2007, and was nominated for an Emmy Award for her performance.

DeGeneres

This year's host, Seth MacFarlane, drew mixed reviews for an edgy performance. He had already taken himself out of the running for a return engagement next year.

The Oscars will be held March 2.

Megan Fox, Brian Austin Green expecting 2nd child

AP

In this Jan. 13, 2013 file photo, actress Megan Fox and actor Brian Austin Green arrive at the 70th Annual Golden Globe Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Less than a year after giving birth to her first child, Megan Fox is pregnant again.

A spokeswoman for the actress said Friday that Fox and her husband, Brian Austin Green, are expecting their second child. Publicist Dominique Appel offered no details.

Fox and Green welcomed a son, Noah, in September. Green also has a son, Kassius, from a previous relationship with actress Vanessa Marcil.

Fox and Green were married in 2010. They began dating in 2004.

Fox was last seen on screen in Judd Apatow's 2012 comedy, "This Is 40." She is currently filming "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles."

Daughter wants to shield her kids from their toxic grandma

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My mother and I were close growing up. However, when I was in college she abandoned the family (my siblings were in high school and elementary school) for her much younger boyfriend.

Since then, our relationship has been strained, particularly since I learned she used to tell her then-husband she was visiting me when she was carrying on her affair. After that, I learned about additional lies she had told me throughout my childhood.

I'm married now and have two young children. Until a year ago we lived in the same city. Mom never came around much because she was preoccupied with finding new boyfriends to support her. She has since moved out of state and stalks me on Facebook, harassing me to get Skype so she can talk to my children.

My mother has never apologized for her actions to anyone and thinks we should just "get over it." Because so much has come out about her, I want to protect my children from being hurt by her the way I was.

I can't tell her outright that I don't want much to do with her for fear it will send her into an "episode," and I don't want my kids caught in the crossfire. If I try to sugar-coat what needs to be said, she won't get it. What should I do?

FRUSTRATED DAUGHTER

DEAR DAUGHTER: Frankly, you'll save yourself a lot of grief if you just tell your mother you're not getting Skype and the reason why, and let her have her "episode." As a parent, you have every right to insulate your children from anyone you feel might be a negative influence—and that includes their grandmother.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating my boyfriend for more than a year and we are considering marriage. I am 23 and have never been dissatisfied with the way I look.

The other day he told my friend that when we get married and become financially stable, he would pay for a boob job for me. I'm offended, mostly because I don't want one and don't think I need one. Do you think this speaks to his character (or lack thereof)?

NOT GOING UNDER IN LOUISIANA

DEAR NOT GOING UNDER: No, I think it speaks to the degree he assumes he can control or make choices for you. That he would say something like that to one of your friends without having discussed it with you is rather disconcerting. I don't blame you for being offended.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: I operate a small Internet radio station out of my house in Texas. I play music 24/7, except on Saturday nights when I usually do a live talk show. A topic I raise every year coincides with my birthday. I announce to all who are listening that I have designated this day as Mind Your Own Business Day.

On this day, my listeners are reminded that if they disapprove of someone's choice of mate, clothing, religion, favorite music, pets—and anything else that may be personal and nobody's business—to keep it to themselves.

Would you be willing to mention this in your column and help me spread the word that while everyone has a right to an opinion, it doesn't mean everyone should be forced to listen to it? Thanks in advance.

JIM IN TEXAS

DEAR JIM: Not only is your message succinct, your idea has merit. If more people followed your philosophy, it could eliminate a lot of conflicts, not to mention headaches.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

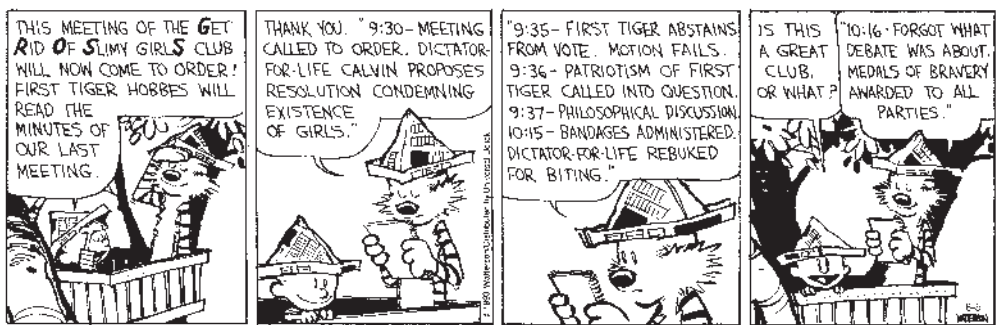
■■■

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

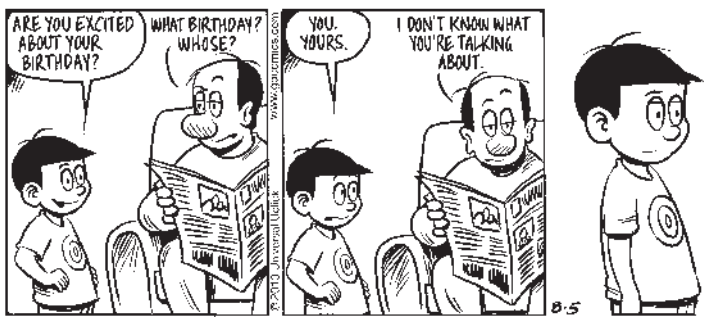

THIS MEETING OF THE GET RID OF SLIMY GIRLS CLUB WILL NOW COME TO ORDER! FIRST TIGER HOBBES WILL READ THE MINUTES OF OUR LAST MEETING.
THANK YOU. "9:30- MEETING CALLED TO ORDER. DICTATOR-FOR-LIFE CALVIN PROPOSES RESOLUTION CONDEMNING EXISTENCE OF GIRLS."
"9:35- FIRST TIGER ABSTAINS FROM VOTE. MOTION FAILS. 9:36- PATRIOTISM OF FIRST TIGER CALLED INTO QUESTION. 9:37- PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSION. 10:15- BANDAGES ADMINISTERED. DICTATOR-FOR-LIFE REBUKED FOR BITING."
IS THIS A GREAT CLUB, OR WHAT?
"10:16- FORGOT WHAT DEBATE WAS ABOUT. MEDALS OF BRAVERY AWARDED TO ALL PARTIES."

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

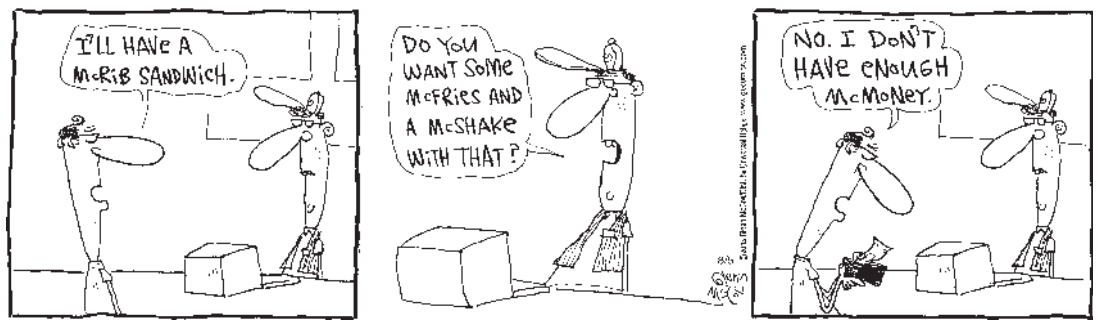
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Kitten's comment
4 Say "cheese"
9 Massachusetts cape
12 Past
13 Sweat outlets
14 Raw mineral
15 Keeper of secrets
17 Indian flatbread
18 Mature
19 Short-lived insect
21 Trojan War hero
24 Mix
25 U.N. workers' grp.
26 Explosive letters
28 Lyric poem
31 Phyllis Diller's "husband"
33 Potential syrup
35 Peevish fit
36 Prefix with "red"
38 Apprehend
40 Afternoon party
41 Privation
43 Fermentation fungi
45 Trivial
47 Rowing tool
48 Twitch
49 "Analects" philosopher
54 Dine
55 Soaring
56 Rage
57 Wife's title
58 Filled with information
59 Hostel

DOWN
1 Cheese partner
2 Id counterpart
3 Triumphed
4 Tap
5 Contemporary people
6 A Gershwin brother
7 Gives temporarily
8 Will subject
9 Faces
10 Exam format
11 Say it isn't so
16 Corpulent
20 Shrill barks
21 Stereo setup
22 Verve
23 Clashes
27 Catch some rays
29 Regimen
30 Greek H's
32 Piratic potable
34 Profits
37 Garbage receptacle
39 Knockout
42 Pilfered
44 Joan of —
45 Branch
46 Tale-teller
50 Present
51 Midafternoon, in a way
52 Grecian vessel
53 Sun Yat- —

Solution time: 27 mins.

S	E	T	■	A	C	T	■	B	E	A	C	H
I	C	E	■	C	H	O	■	U	N	B	A	R
N	A	M	■	H	A	P	P	Y	D	A	Y	S
E	S	P	■	E	L	I	A	S	■	■	■	■
W	I	I	Z	■	F	C	U	■	F	I	F	F
■	■	■	E	A	T	■	L	A	R	D	E	R
R	A	B	B	I	■	■	D	I	S	C	O	■
O	V	E	R	D	O	■	C	O	I	■	■	■
B	F	T	A	■	P	A	I	■	Z	F	A	L
■	■	■	T	A	R	O	T	■	M	A	Y	■
P	U	P	P	Y	L	O	V	E	■	O	R	R
U	S	U	R	P	■	M	E	X	■	T	O	E
T	A	B	O	O	■	A	R	T	■	E	N	S

Friday's answer 8-5

1	2	3	■	4	5	6	7	8	■	9	10	11
12			■	13					■	14		
15			16						■	17		
■	■	■	18			■	19		20			
21	22	23				■	24				■	■
25			■	26		27	■	28			29	30
31			32	■	33		34	■	35			
36				37	■	38		39	■	40		
■	■	41			42	■	43		44			
45	46					■	47			■	■	■
48			■	49		50				51	52	53
54			■	55					■	56		
57			■	58					■	59		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lolo Jones, 31; Jonathan Silverman, 47; Patrick Ewing, 51; Maureen McCormick, 57.

Happy Birthday: Change may be required and desired, but before you jump into something that will be difficult to reverse, make sure you are not going to face conflict with a friend, relative or lover. Learn from your past experience and let your intuition help you make wise choices. Opposition is apparent and must be monitored and dealt with mindfully. Your numbers are 8, 15, 25, 28, 32, 40, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Problems at home or in your personal life must not be allowed to interfere with your productivity. Set your sights on networking and explore avenues that can turn into a profitable endeavor. A positive change is apparent. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Emotional issues will escalate, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't address the problems. Speak up, but keep in mind that everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion. Stubbornness will not get you what you want. Self-improvement projects will pay off. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Memories of past relationships will come to mind. Don't dismay; rethink your past and use what you have experienced to make wise choices now. A change may not be welcome, but in the end it will be beneficial. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Emotional ups and downs can be expected where money matters are concerned. Creative accounting will help you cut corners and still manage to get what you want. Focus on home and family, and utilize your skills to bring in extra cash. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't share personal information. Consider what you can do to improve your life, beliefs and future. Use your willpower to make the changes that will bring you greater satisfaction, purpose and happiness. Make physical alterations that will boost your confidence and morale. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Ask for favors and lend a helping hand if asked, and you will build good relationships with those around you. Love is on the rise, and partnerships can inspire you to be more diverse in your work and your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Sit back, wait, watch and be patient. Don't allow anyone to control or push you into something you don't want to do. Protect your home, your reputation and your professional position. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Make plans to visit places that you find motivational or that can pique your imagination or bring you into contact with interesting people. Love is in the stars, and communication and philosophic growth are evident. Live in the moment. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Make changes at home that will boost your financial situation. Opportunities will come your way, and contractual arrangements will allow you to stabilize your situation. Make a commitment that will help you improve your lifestyle. Don't allow a dishonest relationship to interfere with your plans. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Decisions will be difficult due to interference. Avoid impulsive action and don't allow others to push you in a direction you don't want to go. A new partnership is likely to be a turning point in your life. Follow your heart. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Don't get drawn into something because you feel obligated to someone you are close to. Limitations are prevalent and can lead to unforeseen changes in your professional situation. Gravitate to the people and jobs that offer the most in return. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Have fun, get out and socialize or attend an event that will bring you into contact with people who work in the same field as you. Love is on the rise along with personal and professional partnerships. Look over contracts and readdress your concerns. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intuitive, responsible, dignified and well-liked. You embrace change.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		5			9		1	
		4	8					
8		6		7	1			5
		1	9		6			7
		3				2		
6			5		4	9		
1			6	9		8		3
					2	4		
	2		7			1		

Difficulty Level ★ 8/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

8	3	6	9	4	2	1	5	7
4	5	9	3	7	1	8	2	6
1	7	2	8	6	5	9	3	4
6	8	4	7	5	9	2	1	3
2	1	5	6	3	4	7	9	8
3	9	7	1	2	8	6	4	5
9	2	3	5	8	6	4	7	1
5	4	8	2	1	7	3	6	9
7	6	1	4	9	3	5	8	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/02

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BORA BORA **Solution: 8 letters**

E	S	T	U	N	O	C	O	C	S	C	E	N	I	C
P	T	P	H	U	N	A	M	E	T	O	U	R	S	C
P	R	E	Ⓐ	Ⓝ	Ⓐ	Ⓤ	U	H	C	N	E	R	F	O
O	A	R	E	M	L	L	E	E	W	A	R	D	H	A
T	I	H	A	P	B	U	N	G	A	L	O	W	S	S
E	A	N	I	E	A	I	X	A	N	I	A	P	U	T
P	T	O	T	A	R	P	E	U	R	I	P	M	L	E
A	E	O	I	K	R	E	A	N	R	O	V	S	A	L
T	A	M	P	S	I	O	M	U	C	I	B	I	N	S
I	A	Y	U	C	E	E	M	N	P	E	O	R	D	I
A	U	E	A	O	R	O	E	A	A	O	O	U	S	T
V	N	N	M	P	R	N	S	C	N	N	O	O	S	I
I	E	O	A	R	E	A	H	T	A	T	T	T	P	H
E	F	H	N	A	E	C	O	R	A	L	I	S	A	A
W	R	A	P	O	F	A	I	B	A	Y	P	C	S	T

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Ambience, Anau, Barrier, Beach, Blues, Bora, Bungalows, Canoe, Coast, Coconuts, Copra, Coral, Diving, Faanui, Fenua, French, Heat, Honeymoon, Islets, Lands, Leeward, Lush, Luxurious, Maps, Maupiti, Ocean, Otemanu, Pahia, Papeete, Peaks, Place, Pofai Bay, Raiatea, Reef, Remnants, Romantic, Scenic, Spas, Stay, Tahiti, Toopua, Tourism, Tours, Tupai, Vaitape, View

Last Friday's Answer: Soyuz

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit wonderword.universaluclick.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

AutoCad Operator-$6.00/hr. Minimum of 10 years experience. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimko Ent. Inc.

WANTED TO RENT

Looking for a SAFE 2-3 bedroom house. Preferably with ocean view. Call Alex at 989-2502

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $250/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(10) Driver
- Salary $5.55 per hour plus Tip.
- 3 years driving experience required. Traffic clearance required.
- No DUI history or pending case.
- U.S. Citizens only

(5) Tour Guide
- Salary $5.55 per hour plus Tip.
- Chinese Mandarin speaking required to communicate with Chinese tourist/customers.
- U.S. Citizens only

Please contact Pretty Tour Office for an interview at 285-8688. Please provide resume and colored photo.

1-CARPENTER

Minimum 5 years work experience as a cabinet maker; Apply at Pacific Islands Club Saipan. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays. Position closes 5pm 8/09/13.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(8) **Mason** – 5 years experience - $5.55/hr

Interested applicants must contact and submit resume to RPCF, INC.
P.O. Box 504549 Saipan, MP 96950
Tel #: 234-9127 • Email - brian@pticom.com

OCEANSIDE BAR N GRILL JOB
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Cook (1)
- High school graduate
- Work flexible schedule including weekends and holidays
- At least 1-2 years working experience
- Knowledgeable of all menus and recipes in his section including ingredients, methods of cooking and preparation of dishes and assures that the correct standard of sanitation, hygiene and cleanliness is always maintained.
- Salary $5.55/Hourly

Bartender (2)
- High School graduate
- Work flexible schedule including weekends and holidays
- At least 1-2 years working experience
- Knowledgeable in mixing drinks and serving alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks and beverages to customers
- Salary $5.55/Hourly

Interested applicants can apply in person or email their resume at osidebarngrill@yahoo.com

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

YANO Enterprises, Inc.
dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Cook (2): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test.

Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 year experience. Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant, MISA Bld. 1 Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. Please no phone calls.

FRAM LLC.

Tour Guide (1) Full time with must be fluent in both English and Russian (read, write and converse), will need to do basic office work such as filling and answering phone calls if not on the field. Must have a good knowledge of the island.

Wait staff (2) – 1 fluent in Russian (read, write and converse) and 1 English Speaking Full time with minimum of 3 years experience and must have a Bachelor's Degree.

Bartenders (2) - 1 fluent in Russian (read, write and converse) and 1 English Speaking Full time with minimum of 3 years experience and must have a Bachelor's Degree

Chef De Cusine (1) – Fluent in Russian (read, write and converse) with minimum of 3 years experience and has a Bachelor's Degree

Chef (2) specializing in European Cuisine (Mediterranean and Fine Dining) and American Cuisine with minimum of 3 years experience and has a Bachelor's Degree

Cook Helper (2) with minimum of 3 years experience
Dishwasher (2) with minimum of 3 years experience

All Applicants must provide character reference and previous employment certifications together with police and traffic clearance

Trade testing will be conducted when shortlisted

Interested applicants must submit resume via email including references and certifications to coffeeroom106@gmail.com

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement

Job Vacancy No. 13-045 **Opening Date:** Tuesday, August 05, 2013
Closing Date: Monday, August 19, 2013

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS TECHNICIAN

DUTIES: Under the overall supervision of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) or his/her designee, the incumbent's duties and responsibilities are as follows. May supervise lower level staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staffs are trained; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Performs a wide variety of routine to moderate level fiscal support activities to include: verifying daily transactions processed by others; editing and posting daily transactions; preparing change fund at bank; preparing certification of completion of services; entering NSF checks; preparing billing cycles; reviewing tampered accounts; and, preparing billing adjustments. Generates, reviews and distributes reports. Maintains filing systems. Receives and responds to customer complaints. Prepares response letters to customers. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION: *CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER DIVISION,* ***SAIPAN.***
POSITIONS: *Six (6).*
SALARY: $17,232.00 - $23,231.50 per annum.
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

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Scherzer wins 16th, Tigers beat White Sox 3-0

DETROIT (AP)—Max Scherzer took a shutout into the eighth inning before being pulled, and the Detroit right-hander became baseball's first 16-game winner when the Tigers held on for a 3-0 victory over the punchless Chicago White Sox on Saturday night.

The White Sox have lost nine straight.

The Tigers have won 11 of 12, despite playing most of that stretch without slugger Miguel Cabrera. Cabrera has been bothered by hip and abdominal problems and sat out Saturday.

Scherzer (16-1) allowed three hits in 7 2-3 innings. Jose Veras got the third out of the eighth, and Joaquin Benoit finished for his 12th save in 12 chances.

John Danks (2-9) allowed six hits in seven innings, including solo homers by Torii Hunter, Jhonny Peralta and Jose Iglesias.

Scherzer is the first pitcher to win at least 16 of his first 17 decisions since Roger Clemens started 16-1 in 2001, according to STATS.

AP

Detroit Tigers' Jose Iglesias rounds the bases after hitting a solo home run during the fourth inning of a baseball game against Chicago White Sox starting pitcher John Danks in Detroit, Saturday, Aug. 3, 2013.

Mariners 8, Orioles 4

In Baltimore, Michael Saunders homered twice and drove in five runs, Erasmo Ramirez retired 18 of the first 20 batters he faced and Seattle beat Baltimore to end a four-game losing streak.

Saunders hit a three-run drive in the fifth and added a clinching two-run shot in the ninth. It was his fifth career two-homer game, the second this season.

Justin Smoak homered and went 3 for 3 with two walks for the Mariners.

Ramirez (3-0) gave up four runs and four hits in six-plus innings. He struck out six.

Making his sixth start with Baltimore since being traded from the Cubs, Scott Feldman (2-3) allowed five runs, seven hits and four walks in 4 2-3 innings.

Athletics 4, Rangers 2

In Oakland, California, Yoenis Cespedes hit a two-run home run to help first-place Oakland end Texas' winning streak at five games and regain some ground in the AL West.

Matt Garza (7-2) lost for the first time since June 11 and the Rangers lost ground on the division leader for the first time in nearly a week, falling 3 1/2 games back.

Jed Lowrie and Eric Sogard also drove in runs for the A's, who ended a three-game losing streak. Jarrod Parker (7-6) gave up two runs on six hits over six innings. He walked two and struck out six. He ended a streak of six straight no decisions and is 5-0 over his last 12 starts.

Garza gave up four runs on eight hits over eight innings. He walked one and struck out five.

Angels 7, Blue Jays 3

In Anaheim, California, Jered Weaver pitched into the eighth to win his third straight decision and Kole Calhoun hit his second big league homer as Los Angeles Angels beat Toronto.

Weaver (6-5) allowed three runs, seven hits and two walks through 7 1-3 and struck out five, including the side in the fifth. His streak of consecutive scoreless innings at home was snapped at 26 1-3 when Brett Lawrie led off the third with his ninth home run, but the right-hander still improved to 8-2 lifetime against the Blue Jays.

Esmil Rogers (3-6) gave up seven runs — five earned — and 10 hits over five innings. The right-hander is 0-4 with a 6.60 ERA in his last eight starts.

Twins 6, Astros 4

In Minneapolis, Ryan Doumit hit the go-ahead single in the seventh inning and Minnesota's bullpen pitched six scoreless innings as the Twins beat Houston.

After starter Kyle Gibson allowed four runs and nine hits in three innings, Anthony Swarzak struck out five in the next three and the AL's second-best bullpen came through.

Brian Duensing (4-1) followed with a scoreless seventh and Casey Fien a scoreless eighth to set up Glen Perkins for his 26th save. Minnesota relievers allowed only one hit and struck out 10.

Brett Wallace homered for Houston and Erik Bedard allowed three runs in six innings before leaving with a 4-3 lead. Lucas Harrell (5-12) took the loss.

Red Sox 5, Diamondbacks 2

In Boston, Jake Peavy allowed four hits in seven-plus innings to beat Arizona and win his first start since coming to Boston at the trade deadline.

Peavy (8-5) struck out seven and walked two, giving up Paul Goldschmidt's homer in the fourth and leaving with a 3-1 lead after a leadoff single in the eighth. He walked slowly from the mound as the crowd rose to a standing ovation, tipping his cap to the fans on his way to the dugout.

Shane Victorino and Jarrod Saltalamacchia homered and Koji Uehara got his 10th save for Boston.

Patrick Corbin (12-3) allowed three runs on eight hits in six-plus innings in his second consecutive loss for the Diamondbacks.

Rays 2, Giants 1, 10 innings

St. Petersburg, Florida, Wil Myers had an RBI single in the bottom of the 10th inning, lifting Tampa Bay to a victory over San Francisco.

Desmond Jennings drew a leadoff walk in the 10th off Jean Machi (2-1) and stole second. Ben Zobrist was intentionally walked and Evan Longoria walked to load the bases on four pitches before Myers won it on his liner that went over the left fielder's head.

Closer Fernando Rodney (4-2) allowed two hits during a scoreless 10th for the win.

The game featured a matchup of Cy Young winners David Price and Tim Lincecum, and both were outstanding. Price allowed one run over nine innings, while Lincecum gave up one run in seven frames.

Dodgers 3, Cubs 0

In Chicago, Chris Capuano scattered six hits over 6 1-3 innings and the Los Angeles Dodgers set a team record with their 13th straight road win over the Chicago Cubs.

The Dodgers, who haven't lost on the road since July 6 in San Francisco, eclipsed the 1924 mark set by the Brooklyn Robins.

Carl Crawford broke open a 1-0 game by driving in two runs with a single in the sixth inning. Jerry Hairston Jr. singled in the first run in the third for NL West-leading Los Angeles, which is 13-2 since the All-Star break and has won 30 of its last 37 overall.

Capuano (4-6) came up with his second straight strong start and third in his last four. He struck out five and walked only one before four Dodgers relievers closed it out.

Kenley Jansen pitched a perfect ninth to earn his 16th save in 19 chances.

Jeff Samardzija (6-10) allowed three runs over six innings in Chicago's third straight loss. He gave up seven hits, five walks and hit a batter. He also had nine strikeouts.

Pirates 5, Rockies 2

In Pittsburgh, Francisco Liriano worked seven strong innings, and Jose Tabata homered and drove in two runs to lead Pittsburgh over Colorado.

Liriano (12-4) allowed only two hits to offset his five walks and had six strikeouts. The left-hander improved to 7-1 with a 1.65 ERA in his last eight starts for the NL Central leaders.

Tabata hit his first home run since May 11 and also tripled while going 3 for 4.

Gaby Sanchez had two hits and two RBIs for Pittsburgh, while Jordy Mercer and Andrew McCutchen added two hits each.

Jorge De La Rosa (10-6) pitched four-plus innings and gave up three runs on six hits.

Reds 8, Cardinals 3

In Cincinnati, Devin Mesoraco drove in three runs with a pair of homers, and Cincinnati finally broke out against a St. Louis team that has held the Reds down all season.

The Reds won for only the fourth time in 11 games between the NL Central rivals. Cincinnati had scored fewer than four runs in each of their last nine games head-to-head.

Left-hander Tony Cingrani (5-1) and four relievers contained an offense that had scored 26 runs in the last two games, allowing only four hits.

Jake Westbrook (7-6) gave up five runs—all with two outs—in five innings. Jack Hannahan singled with the bases loaded in the first inning. Mesoraco's homer in the fourth made it 4-1.

Braves 5, Phillies 4, 12 innings

In Philadelphia, Dan Uggla had a tiebreaking RBI grounder in the 12th, the Atlanta bullpen pitched 5 2-3 scoreless innings and the Braves beat Philadelphia for their ninth straight win.

Luis Avilan (4-0) pitched a scoreless 11th for the victory and Craig Kimbrel got the last three outs for his 33rd save to help the Braves win for the 11th time in 13 games.

Jake Diekman (0-2) ran into trouble in the 12th. Justin Upton walked leading off and went to second on Freddie Freeman's groundout. Walks to Evan Gattis and Paul Janish loaded the bases.

After Justin De Fratus came on, Uggla hit a potential double-play ball to short, but Uggla was safe when Chase Utley's relay pulled an extended Kevin Frandsen off the bag at first.

Nationals 3, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Dan Haren pitched seven strong innings, and Adam LaRoche and Wilson Ramos hit home runs to lead Washington to a win over Milwaukee.

Heron gave up just four hits, with six strikeouts and two walks. It was the second straight strong outing for Haren (6-11) as he allowed one run and three hits in seven innings of a 4-1 win over the New York Mets on July 27.

Tyler Clippard pitched a scoreless eighth inning and Rafael Soriano pitched the ninth to earn his 28th save in 32 chances.

Donovan Hand (0-3) gave up three runs on five hits for the Brewers.

Yankees 3, Padres 0

In San Diego, Curtis Granderson hit a two-run home run, his first since coming off the disabled list, and Ivan Nova dominated through seven impressive innings as New York beat San Diego.

Tyson Ross was pitching well for the Padres when it quickly fell apart. Alfonso Soriano singled to center leading off the seventh and Granderson followed with a homer over the wall in right.

Nova (5-4) held San Diego to just four hits in seven innings while striking out eight and walking one. He retired 15 straight batters from the second through sixth innings.

Ross (2-5) allowed two runs and three hits in six-plus innings, struck out a career-high nine and walked three.

Royals 4, Mets 3, 12 innings

In New York, pinch-hitter Justin Maxwell homered deep into the left-field seats leading off the 12th inning, and Kansas City overcame a late blown lead to beat New York.

Kansas City had a nine-game winning streak snapped Friday night with a loss in the 11th.

Maxwell, acquired Wednesday in a trade with Houston, hit a 3-2 pitch from David Aardsma for his fifth career pinch-homer and first overall with the Royals. The Mets' bullpen had been perfect after starter Jeremy Hefner's six innings, but Aardsma (2-1) couldn't retire the first batter he faced.

Kelvin Herrera (4-5) earned the win with three innings of relief and Greg Holland got his 29th save in 31 chances — and 22nd straight.

Indians 4, Marlins 3

In Miami, Michael Bourn had three of Cleveland's six stolen bases and scored three times to help the Indians earn their ninth victory in the past 10 games with a win over Miami.

Jason Kipnis' two-run single broke a 2-all tie in a wild seventh inning, when the Marlins narrowly missed three chances to throw out Indians on the bases. Steals led to all four runs for the Indians, whose stolen-base total was their highest since 2000.

Cleveland's Zach McAllister took a no-hitter into the sixth but failed to make it through that inning. Cody Allen (5-1) threw 1 2-3 scoreless innings and Chris Perez got his 16th save.

Dan Jennings (1-2) took the loss for the Marlins.

Agent says Heat to sign Greg Oden

MIAMI (AP)—Greg Oden still needs some time to get ready for the rigors of playing in the NBA.

He no longer needs a new team, however.

The former No. 1 overall draft pick has chosen to sign with the two-time defending NBA champion Miami Heat, ending months of suspense over where the center whose career has been decimated by a series of knee problems would be attempting his comeback. The Heat were long perceived as the frontrunners to land Oden, and now have a 7-footer to help them try for a third straight title.

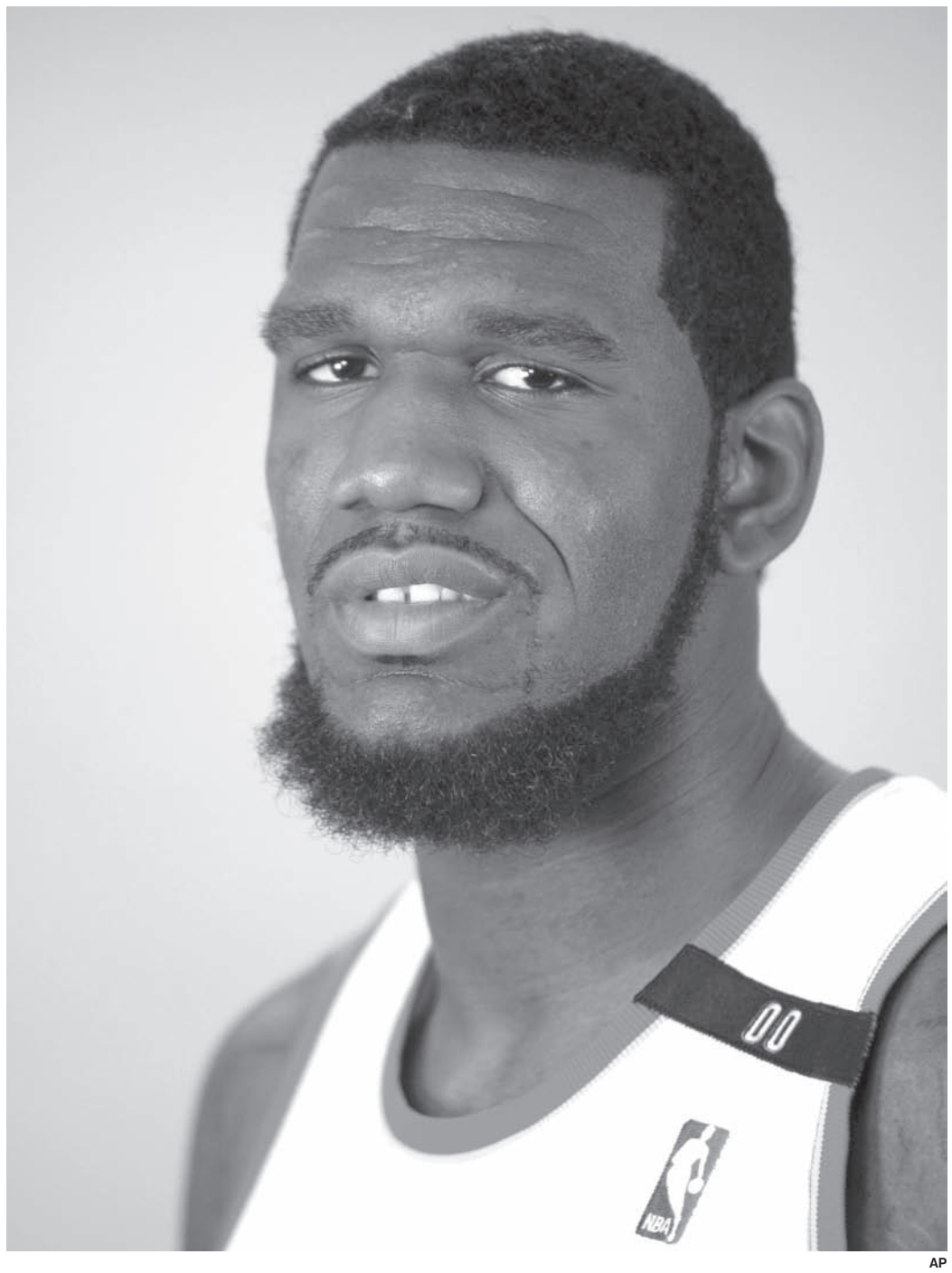
Mike Conley Sr., one of Oden's agents, said Friday night that the former Portland center accepted an offer worth about $1 million for this coming season and would have a player option for 2014-15.

"He just thought that it was the best fit for him, where he's at and especially for how it relates to him coming back," Conley said. "He can be on a winning team and be working his way in slowly."

The contract is expected to be formally signed early next week, Conley said.

"I think a 7-footer can help any team," Heat point guard Mario Chalmers said. "They're hard to find. I've known Greg since our high school days, talked to him a couple of times about this and you just hope for the best."

Oden told ESPN.com on Friday night that he still has "a lot of work to do."



AP

This photo taken Sept. 29, 2008 shows former Portland Trail Blazers' Greg Oden poses during media day for the NBA basketball team at the Rose Garden, in Portland, Ore.

And during their recruiting process, the Heat were obviously cognizant of that. Oden has not played in the NBA since fracturing his kneecap in a game on Dec. 5, 2009, but the Heat surely will not expect him to play big minutes right away, given that they are bringing back most of the rotation that won the last two league titles and will almost certainly be favored to win a third next season.

When meeting with Oden last month in Indianapolis, Heat coach Erik Spoelstra laid out what Miami's plans would be as far as potential roles and the former Ohio State star's ongoing rehabilitation, and whatever got said in that conversation resonated throughout the remainder of the decision-making process.

"The fact that Coach Spoelstra said all the right things, understood where he was at and what he wants, that impressed Greg quite a bit," Conley said.

Oden is the second No. 1 pick on the Heat roster, joining LeBron James, the top overall draft selection in 2003—and someone who developed quite an affinity for Oden's game when the center was at Ohio State. Oden wound up leaving college after one season, then was taken by Portland at the top of the 2007 draft.

It was a spectacular failure, thanks to an array of injuries. Oden played in just 82 games—the equivalent of one full NBA season—during his four-plus years in the Blazers' organization, averaging 9.4 points, 7.3 rebounds and 1.4 blocks on 58 percent shooting.

Oden's health issues have dogged him since he was drafted. Right knee microfracture surgery—a procedure used to develop new, healthy cartilage—ended what would have been his rookie season before it ever started. He made his long-awaited NBA debut on Oct. 28, 2008, and sprained his right foot in that game, sidelining him for two weeks.

His next major injury issue came in February of that season, when he chipped his left kneecap and missed about a month. Oden returned for the final 21 games of that season - 15 before the playoffs, then six more in the postseason, when Portland was ousted by the Rockets.

He's played in a total of 21 games since, and the fractured kneecap in 2009 came just as he seemed to be hitting his best NBA stride. Another microfracture surgery awaited him in November 2010, and a third one was needed early in 2012, essentially ending his career with the Blazers. He was waived in March 2012.

"Time will tell," Heat president Pat Riley said earlier this summer, when asked if Oden could still be effective.

San Antonio, New Orleans, Dallas, Atlanta and Sacramento also were believed to be seriously vying for Oden this summer, with a handful of other clubs expressing a lower level of interest.

"The scenario at San Antonio made sense for him also," Conley said. "You have a coach there in Gregg Popovich that's used to bringing players back slowly and Tim Duncan to learn from. He was definitely impressed with Mark Cuban in Dallas and meeting him, and he's really good friends with (coach) Monty Williams at New Orleans. It wasn't cut and dry across the board for Miami."

Still, the Heat won out, and did so at a bargain price.

Miami used the amnesty provision on Mike Miller last month, a move that could save the team more than $35 million in luxury-tax payments over the next two years. Oden likely could have gotten more money elsewhere, but the Heat have shown many times over the last three summers that they can get players to take less money in exchange for being part of a title-contending team.

"He wants to compete for championships," Conley said.

Woods just ordinary, still up by 7 at Bridgestone

AKRON, Ohio (AP)—With an elite field chasing the lead, Tiger Woods decided to play keep-away.

Already up by a staggering seven shots through 36 holes thanks to a career-tying best of 61 in the second round, Woods shot a solid 2-under 68 on Saturday in the Bridgestone Invitational to maintain that same seven-stroke lead.

It was as if he was turning around and daring the world's best players to come after him. No one really could.

"You know, today was a day that I didn't quite have it," said Woods, who was at 15-under 195. "But I scored. And that's the name of the game, posting a number, and I did today. I grinded my way around that golf course."

Now he's only 18 holes away from making even more history in a career of historic accomplishments. He'll be competing against the record book as much as the elite field.

"It's kind of tough to pick up seven or eight shots on Tiger around here," said Henrik Stenson, a distant second after a 67. "It would take something spectacular on my behalf or any of the other guys around me, and obviously a very, very poor round for him."

Woods, by the way, is 41-2 when leading after 54 holes in a PGA Tour event.

A victory would be his eighth at Firestone Country Club and in the Bridgestone and its forerunner, the NEC Invitational. That would match the tour-record eight he already has at Bay Hill and the eight wins Sam Snead had at the Greater Greensboro Open.

Woods also could capture his 79th victory on the PGA Tour, drawing him within three of Snead's record of 82.

"I'll just go out there and execute my game plan," he said. "It all starts with what the weather is doing, and then I build it from there. We'll see what I do tomorrow."

Unlike in a second-round 61 that could easily have been a 59 or even lower, Woods didn't recover from all of his errant shots. He bogeyed the ninth, 14th and 16th holes, failing to bounce back from wayward shots.

Yet he still was good enough to put himself in position for yet another lopsided victory, one that will likely mark him as the player to beat next week in the PGA Championship at Oak Hill.

"Any time you can go into a major tournament or any tournament with a win under your belt, it's nice," Woods said. "It validates what you're working on and you have some nice momentum going in there."

Of course, Woods has failed to win his last 17 major championships. No longer is it a lock that, with 14, he'll surpass the mark of 18 by Jack Nicklaus.

Woods began the third round with a seven-shot lead after rounds of 66 and the career-best 61—the fourth time he has gone that low, also matching the tournament record originally set by Jose Maria Olazabal in 1990.

Jason Dufner was third, eight strokes back after a 67, and Luke Donald (68), Bill Haas (69) and Chris Wood (70) followed at 6 under.

Dufner said Firestone isn't all that unique because it is just one of a number of places where Woods dominates.

"Yeah, he has a pretty good track record here," he said. "There's quite a few events out here that he does really well. Torrey Pines comes to mind, Bay Hill comes to mind, the Memorial. So he obviously feels comfortable on those courses, and it's our job to try and chase him down if we can."

Defending champ Keegan Bradley, with a 71, was another shot back along with Miguel Angel Jimenez, who put up a 65. Rounding out the top 10 were 2011 Bridgestone winner and reigning Masters champ Adam Scott and Zach Johnson.

Woods has overwhelmed everyone in a glittering field that includes 48 of the top 50 players in the world ranking.

Much like he did a day earlier, Woods started out fast. He birdied the first two holes (he had also eagled No. 2 in the second round). He rolled in a 12-footer at No. 1 and then two-putted from 40 feet at No. 2, most likely causing the rest of the players to just shake their heads.

From there, however, he proved merely human. He parred the next six holes and then drove into the sheer face of a fairway bunker and took a bogey at the ninth hole.

He played the back nine 1-under par—including yet another shot for the highlight reel.

At the par-4 13th, he airmailed his iron shot over the green and into heavy, grabby rough. But he got a sand wedge under the ball, popping it straight up. It landed on the green and rolled right to the pin, clanging off it and into the hole for birdie from 40 feet away.

"Certainly, it wasn't a shot I was trying to make. I was just trying to get it down there where I could get a par and get out of Dodge and dodge a bullet," he said. "It just happened to go in."

Of course, the ball often happens to just go in for Woods at World Golf Championship events like the Bridgestone.

He has won 17 times in 41 starts—a success rate of 41 percent—while finishing in the top 10 an amazing 32 times in WGC events.

At Firestone, he's had winning streaks of four (2005-09) and three (1999-2001), and also has a tie for second and two fourth-place finishes.

Woods looked back on his round and gave it a thumbs-up.

"It ended up being a dead push for the day," he said about hanging on to the same lead he began the day with. "That's not too bad, either."

Not too bad at all.

Docomo Pacific to host Golf Classic for MTEC

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

First Hawaiian Bank vice president Juan Lizama, right, presents a sponsorship check for $2,000 to Docomo Pacific's James Nelson and Pauline Johnson in support of the 4th Annual Docomo Pacific Golf Classic. Revenues generated from the golf tournament will benefit the Marianas Tourism Education Council.

The Marianas Tourism Education Council will be the beneficiary as Docomo Pacific will once again host the Docomo Pacific Golf Classic this coming Labor Day Weekend. The tournament date is set for Aug. 31, 2012 at the scenic Marianas Country Club with a tee time set at 8am.

"We must continue to reinforce the importance of our tourism industry to all, but most especially the generations that follow. It is vital that businesses, both large and small, support MTEC in its mission of developing tourism related programs for our high school students, says James Nelson, Docomo Pacific's general manager.

This is the fourth year Docomo Pacific will host the tournament and the responses received from the business community have been great.

Major sponsors such as First Hawaiian Bank, DFS Saipan Ltd, Mobil, McDonald's Saipan, and the Tan Siu Lin Foundation have all stepped forward with their support again this year.

Hole-in-one sponsors Joeten Motors, Bank of Hawaii, and Triple J Motors have also lent their invaluable support with fantastic prizes.

The Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Delta Air Lines, the Marianas Visitors Authority, the Pacific Islands Club, and the Hyatt Regency Saipan are back once again as sponsors along with Dickerson & Quinn, Kautz Glass, and DataDot Micronesia.

"We must continue to do all we can to support non-profit organizations that have a direct impact on tourism and our student community", added Nelson.

This year's entry fee remains the same as always at $85 and includes cart and green fees, on-course refreshments, and awards banquet. And in Docomo Classic tradition, participants can look forward to the hotdog and watermelon stands out on the course.

Entry forms are available at the Docomo Pacific store on Middle Road in Gualo Rai. Entry fees are accepted at Docomo Pacific. Golfers are encouraged to enter as soon as possible. The deadline for entries is 5pm, Aug. 28.

For more information, contact Nelson at 483-4924 or email jnelson@docomopacific.com.

Docomo Pacific is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Japan telecom giant, NTT DOCOMO. As such, NTT DOCOMO presents the opportunity to share its world-leading technology with the region as evidenced by significant investments and upgrades in Docomo Pacific. In October 2008, Docomo Pacific was first to introduce the fastest and only 3.5G network on Guam and, as of early 2012, now also offers advanced 4G services. Docomo Pacific has been enhancing the multitude of content services available to mobile users on Guam and the CNMI. ***(PR)***

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went to one of the two bunkers, while Poe still had his ball to the far right away from the greens.

Lee eventually got out of the bunker, but overshot his mark, while Poe rolled the ball down to the greens before it stopped several inches away from the cup. Poe then made a tap and got the ball in, while Lee again overshot his target before sinking the ball in the cup on his sixth attempt.

Though he won via sudden-death, Poe said the pivotal hole was the par-3, 127-yard hole No. 15.

"I made a birdie and he bogeyed No. 15, so I was only down by one and forced a tie, incidentally in hole No. 17, which he also bogeyed," Poe said.

Poe finished yesterday's second round with a 3-over par 75, matching his first round output last Saturday for a two-day total of 6-over 150. He had a 2-over par 38 in the first nine holes and 1-over 37 in the last in the first and second round and was one-stroke behind Lee after last Saturday's competiton.

"I was chasing him from the start and fortunately I managed to catch up with him in the last few holes and won the playoff hole," Poe said.

Lee had a 2-over 38 in his first nine holes last Saturday and finished the round with a par 36 to take the early lead against 10 other Championship Flight participants. In the second round, he recorded 38 on both nines.

Both Lee and Poe received cash prizes and trophies for their Top 2 finish in the Championship Flight, while three other golfers in Championship Flight were also recognized in yesterday's awards ceremony. The list includes Saipan's J.J. Atalig, who finished third with his 154 (80 and 74), Chae Son Yi, 155 (78 and 77), and Seung San Choi, 155 (77 and 78).

Other Championship Flight participants in the weekend tournament were Jin Woo Park (157), Adam Hardwicke (157), Jong Hoon Park (159), T.J. Hubert (160), William Retardo (173), and Enoch Lim (173).

Meanwhile, results in seven other divisions will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Tuesday edition.

PBT

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time (5:05.60) in the last half of the race to get her second PBT in this year's competition. In the 400m freestyle event last Sunday, Chentsova posted 4:59.78 to eclipse her previous PBT of 5:08.57.

Wong, who set a PBT and CNMI national record in the 200m individual medley last Wednesday with his 2:09.59, missed his second PBT, but ruled Heat 1 of the qualifying race. Wong submitted 2:23.75, just 40 seconds behind the CNMI mark and his PBT (2:23.35), to beat Zambia'z Alexandros Axiotis (2:34.43) and Maldives' Ashraf Hassan (2:55.19)

"It was okay, I was hoping to break 2.23, but I gave it all I've got." Breaststroke is my secondary stroke but I'm happy with a 2.23. I've been doing more sprint work, pace work, and stroke work with the IM stuff so I'm happy with that result on Wednesday. Today (last Thursday), I was just doing it kind of relaxed but hopefully next time I'll do better," Wong told McAlpine.

Wong, who has been to four long course World Championships and one short course, added that every stint in the prestigious competition is a learning process.

"It's still a journey. It's different every time, different coaches, new faces, and a different environment.

"I really want to get to that level where I'm close to the semifinals area. It's a long way to go but hopefully I'll get some breakthrough swims in the future," the University of Hawaii-Manoa swimmer said.

Meanwhile, two other CNMI swimmers—Angel Marie Tan and Kensuke Kimura—also raced over the weekend and results of their events will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Tuesday edition.

PROA

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in the elimination round tomorrow against San Roque. Armatech fell at the middle of the standings of the nine-team field with its 3-3 slate.

Armatech's upset axe missed Proa, as the former went scoreless for about five minutes in the fourth quarter and was held to 6 points and three field goals in the pivotal period. Before the meltdown, Armatech built a commanding 58-42 lead at the end of the third canto.

Elmer Esdrelon led the third-quarter assault, dropping four triples and scoring 14 points, as Armatech broke the second-half standoff, 26-26, and took a 16-point lead, putting Proa's winning streak on the line.

However, Proa made a big comeback in the fourth canto behind the backcourt duo of Keoni Chariton and Quincy Johnson. Chariton scored Proa's first three baskets, while Armatech went cold in the first five minutes of the fourth period. Johnson added 6 points, while Chariton got 4 more and three other Proa players made it to the board to foil Armatech's upset bid.

Armatech drew only 2 points from Esdrelon in the fourth quarter, while the two other field goals came from Bruce Berline and Junar Guiab, who scored when AXE Proa was already in control of the driver' seat.

Chariton top-scored in Proa's come-from-behind win, nailing 15 points, while Johnson also finished in twin digits with his 13. Esdrelon had 28 for Armatech.

Meanwhile, Mariana Resort got a free win via forfeiture over San Roque to improve to a 4-3 record after. San Roque, which dropped to a 1-5 card, failed to get enough players in time for the second game of the night.

AXE Proa 68 – Chariton 15, Johnson 13, Alegre 8, Barcinas 8, Lizama 4, Dela Rosa 4, Tudela 3, Libuw 2, Aranda 2, VIllacrusis 2.

Armatech 65 – Esdrelon 28, McCain 9, De Dios 6, Talania 5, Berline 4, Gabaldon 3, Manalo 2, Guiab 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-13, 26-26, 42-58, 68-65.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	67	45	.598	—
Tampa Bay	65	45	.591	1
Baltimore	61	50	.550	5 1/2
New York	57	52	.523	8 1/2
Toronto	50	60	.455	16

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	63	45	.583	—
Cleveland	61	49	.555	3
Kansas City	55	52	.514	7 1/2
Minnesota	47	60	.439	15 1/2
Chicago	40	68	.370	23

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	64	46	.582	—
Texas	61	50	.550	3 1/2
Los Angeles	51	58	.468	12 1/2
Seattle	51	59	.464	13
Houston	36	73	.330	27 1/2

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	66	45	.595	—
Washington	54	56	.491	11 1/2
Philadelphia	50	60	.455	15 1/2
New York	49	59	.454	15 1/2
Miami	43	66	.394	22

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh	66	44	.600	—
St. Louis	64	45	.587	1 1/2
Cincinnati	61	50	.550	5 1/2
Chicago	49	61	.445	17
Milwaukee	46	64	.418	20

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	60	49	.550	—
Arizona	56	54	.509	4 1/2
Colorado	52	60	.464	9 1/2
San Diego	51	60	.459	10
San Francisco	49	60	.450	11

BRIDGESTONE INVITATIONAL SCORES

AKRON, Ohio (AP)–Scores Saturday from Bridgestone Invitational, a PGA Tour event played at the 7,400-yard, par-70 Firestone Country Club (South)

THIRD ROUND

Tiger Woods	66-61-68—195
Henrik Stenson	65-70-67—202
Jason Dufner	67-69-67—203
Luke Donald	67-69-68—204
Bill Haas	67-68-69—204
Chris Wood	66-68-70—204
Miguel Angel Jimenez	71-69-65—205
Keegan Bradley	66-68-71—205
Adam Scott	73-68-66—207
Zach Johnson	69-70-68—207
Steve Stricker	71-67-70—208
Rickie Fowler	67-71-70—208
Richard Sterne	70-68-70—208
John Merrick	72-66-70—208
Bubba Watson	67-69-72—208
Jim Furyk	67-69-72—208
Phil Mickelson	72-71-67—210
Ian Poulter	69-72-69—210
Justin Rose	69-72-69—210
Martin Kaymer	74-67-69—210
Rory McIlroy	70-71-69—210
Ryan Moore	66-74-70—210
Hideki Matsuyama	72-68-70—210
Angel Cabrera	72-68-70—210
Jamie Donaldson	70-69-71—210
Harris English	70-68-72—210
Kiradech Aphibarnrat	69-68-73—210
Peter Hanson	70-72-70—212
Matt Kuchar	72-71-69—212
Gonzalo Fernandez-Castano	70-74-68—212
Paul Lawrie	69-72-71—212
Bo Van Pelt	71-73-68—212
Francesco Molinari	70-70-72—212
Webb Simpson	64-75-73—212
Charl Schwartzel	74-74-64—212
Brandt Snedeker	72-70-71—213
Graeme McDowell	71-71-71—213
Lee Westwood	71-71-71—213
Ernie Els	71-72-70—213
Michael Thompson	72-71-70—213
Boo Weekley	73-70-70—213
Nick Watney	71-72-70—213
Paul Casey	70-70-73—213
Thorbjorn Olesen	73-69-72—214
Richie Ramsay	73-69-73—215
Matteo Manassero	71-70-74—215
Branden Grace	70-75-70—215
Stephen Gallacher	74-74-67—215
Nicolas Colsaerts	72-70-74—216
Russell Henley	72-69-75—216
Dustin Johnson	72-69-75—216
Sang-Moon Bae	73-73-70—216
Brian Gay	72-70-75—217
D.A. Points	73-69-75—217
David Lynn	71-73-73—217
Sergio Garcia	71-76-70—217
Carl Pettersson	72-73-73—218
Jonas Blixt	70-75-73—218
Ken Duke	70-75-73—218
Jason Day	74-72-72—218
Martin Laird	77-70-71—218
Shane Lowry	72-76-70—218
Mikko Ilonen	73-73-73—219
Satoshi Kodaira	70-74-76—220
Scott Piercy	68-77-75—220
Billy Horschel	74-74-72—220
Derek Ernst	73-76-71—220
Kevin Streelman	76-73-71—220
Tommy Gainey	74-71-76—221
Brett Rumford	76-74-72—222
Toru Taniguchi	75-73-79—227
Daniel Popovic	79-77-76—232
Jaco Van Zyl	73-82-78—233

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weekend Sports

Two off-island tournaments for CNMI athletes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI athletes were again up for off-island competitions.

Four of the Commonwealth's swimmers traveled to Barcelona, Spain last week and competed in the 15th FINA World Championships. The list included Rezne Wong, Victoria Chentsova, Angel De Jesus, and Kensuke Kimura.

Wong raced in the 200m individual medley and 200m breaststroke and earned a personal best time and CNMI mark in the first event before topping the heat for his second and last swim. Chentsova joined the 400m and 800m freestyle swims and posted PBTs in both events, while Kimura and De Jesus also participated in two races each and logged respectable times.

From Barcelona, CNMI bets headed to neighboring Guam. The CNMI U18 National Team will be in the U.S. territory to compete in the 2013 EAFF Regional Qualifier. A send-off ceremony was held last Thursday to wish the squad good luck as it play against North Korea, Guam, Hong Kong, Macau, and Chinese-Taipei. The team is composed of Christopher Aninzo, Joshua Galarion, Diego Masga, Kennedy Izuka, John Taisacan, Enrico Del Rosario, Bo Barry, Kenneth Domingo, William Hinson II,Won Young Kim, Jireh Yobech, Joel Fruit, Dakota Hall, Terrence Belcher, Scott Kim, Jordan Butcher, Jehn Joyner, and Yoshi Mafnas. Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director Johann Noetzel is the head coach and will be assisted by Jershwin Angeles. Norman Del Rosario is the team manager, while Pamela Carhill and Rose Lazaro are the physiotherapist and equipment manager, respectively.

Meanwhile, in local competitions, ongoing leagues on Saipan continued. In the Emon Lodge caging, AXE Proa remained undefeated, while Adobo was also unbeaten in the DL Corp. league.

Still in basketball, the Rotary caging opened its 2013 season with eight teams participating in the U19 division.

Another basketball league kicked off last week with Kanoa Resort hosting a competition for female players. Four teams are competing in the league—Ballersss, Bubblebxtt, Yoloswag Attack, and Hashtag.

In darts, the Saipan Electronic Darts Association recognized the champions in the Bud Cup and regular season.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

NMIFA president Jerry Tan, fourth from left, back row, joins the CNMI U18 National Team for a group photo during a send-off ceremony last week at the lobby of the Kanoa Resort.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left, Johann Noetzel, Jershwin Angeles, Norman del Rosario, Pam Carhill, and Roxe Lazaro pose for a group photo during a send-off ceremony for the CNMI U18 National Team last week at the lobby of the Kanoa Resort.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

BANMI referees and table officials pose for a photo before the second game in the Emon Lodge caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Oleai Sports Complex parking lot is seen repainted, courtesy of the CNMI Senior All-Stars, who would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Ray S. Tenorio for donating a canopy for the baseball players community project last week.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Proa's Josephus Aguilar goes for an undergoal shot against three Ol'Aces defenders during a game in last Friday's Rotary caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Ballersss' Dion Diaz pulls up for a shot against Hasgtag defenders during the second half of their game in the Kanoa women's caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

THE REPORTERS ACADEMY UK

The CNMI's Kensuke Kimura competes in the 100m butterfly event in the 15th FINA World Championships last Friday in Barcelona, Spain.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Sudden-death playoff at TOC

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Guam's Daryl Poe gets ready to hit the ball from the greens of the No. 17 hole of the east course at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort yesterday during the final round of the 18th Annual Tournament of Champions.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 18th Annual Tournament of Champions had a fitting finish with Guam's Daryl Poe beating Geon Gu Lee in a sudden-death playoff in the Championship Flight.

Poe bogeyed the deciding hole, No. 17 on the east course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort last Sunday, while Lee double-bogeyed, giving the Guam golfer his first win at TOC after a third place finish in 2011. Poe had a rough start in the par-4, 373-yard deciding hole, as his first two shots landed on the far right of the fairway, while Lee's second ball dropped down the center more than 100 yards from the tee box. However, Lee's third shot then

See TOC on Page 26

Proa dodges Armatech's upset axe

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

AXE Proa flirted with its first loss of the season before pulling off a 68-65 win over Armatech in the lone game played in the Emon Lodge No. 179 Brotherhood Basketball League 2013/Docomo Pacific Cup last Thursday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The scary win moved AXE Proa a win away from sweeping the round-robin regular season, while the loss snapped Armatech's two-game winning run. Proa now has a 7-0 record to strengthen its hold of the No. 1 spot and will play its last game

See PROA on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

AXE Proa's Quincy Johnson, seen here going for a layup in a game against Mobil in the Emon Lodge caging last month, helped his team rally past Armatech last Thursday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

PBT for Chentsova; heat win for Wong

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Victoria Chentsova and Rezne Wong finished strong in the 15th FINA World Championships in Barcelona, Spain.

Chentsova got another personal best time in her last event in the competition, the 800m freestyle, while Wong topped the qualifying heat in the 200m breaststroke event.

The 15-year-old Chentsova clocked in at 10:14.63 in the longest race in the tournament last Friday at the Palau Sant Jord. Her time in last weekend's swim was way faster than her previous PBT of 10:34.21, making the CNMI swimmer very pleased with her performance in Barcelona.

"It was very tiring but I beat my time which I'm definitely very, very happy about," Chentsova was quoted as saying by The Reporter's Academy UK's Alice McAlpine.

Chentsova had a split time of 5:09.03 and despite being exhausted, she went all the way in the last 400m, posting a faster

See PBT on Page 26